THE

NEW ROBINSON CRUSOE;

AN INSTRUCTIVE AND ENTERTAINING

HISTORY,

FOR THE USE OF

CHILDREN OF BOTH SEXES.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.

Embelliſhed with Thirty-two beautiful Cuts.

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TWENTY-THIRD EVENING.

ROBINSON and Friday might have been asleep about half an hour, when the former was suddenly awakened by a violent storm, which began and was at the height almost in the same instant. The roaring of the wind was dreadful, and the earth shook with repeated claps of thunder. "Do you hear this?" said Robinson to Friday, awaking him. "Heavens!" replied he, "what would have become of us if we

had been ſurpriſed at ſea in ſuch weather?" Juſt at that moment they heard the report of a gun at a great diſtance.

Friday thought it was thunder; Robinſon was firmly perſuaded that a gun had been fired, and this belief filled him with joy. He ſtarts up from bed, runs to the fire-place, bids Friday follow him, ſnatches up a burning piece of wood, and mounts his ladder of ropes. Friday followed his maſter's example, without knowing what his intentions were.

Robinſon made haſte to kindle a large fire upon the top of the hillock, to ſignify to the people at ſea in diſtreſs that they would find a ſafe refuge upon that iſland; for he had not the leaſt doubt that there was ſome ſhip in diſtreſs near at hand, and that the report of the gun which he had heard was a ſignal of their danger. But ſcarce had the fire begun to blaze up before there came ſuch a ſhower of rain as put it out in a moment. Robinſon and Friday were obliged to haſten to the cave, for fear

of being carried away by the water, which ran in floods. The whiſtling of the wind, the roaring of the waves, the loud burſts of thunder, all ſound with redoubled tumult; and though, in the midſt of this tremendous agitation of the elements, Robinſon thought he could diſtinguiſh now and then ſome reports of cannon, yet he doubted whether they might not be the burſting of thunder at a diſtance. However, notwithſtanding his doubts, he indulged himſelf with the flattering thought that there might be a ſhip near at hand, the captain of which, if he eſcaped the danger of this dreadful ſtorm, might take him and his faithful Friday on board, and carry them to Europe. Ten times he attempted to light the fire, and ten times the rain put it out. All that remained in his power to do for the unfortunate people who were ſtruggling againſt ſhipwreck and death, he did: he prayed for them with the greateſt devotion.

Rich. He was not afraid, then, of the ſtorm, as formerly?

Mr. Bill. No; you ſee him now perfectly cured of that ſenſeleſs fear. But how was this cure wrought?

Rich. By his having a clear conſcience, which reproached him with no crime.

Mr. Bill. Right; and, moreover, by a firm perſuaſion that the Almighty is a being of the pureſt benevolence, and that, conſequently, nothing happens to thoſe who are endowed with true piety and virtue but what conduces finally to their greateſt happineſs.—It was day-break before the ſtorm ceaſed. As ſoon as it was clear, Robinſon, ſuſpended between hope and fear, went to the ſea-ſide, accompanied by Friday, to aſcertain whether his conjectures were well or ill founded. But the firſt diſcovery that they made filled Robinſon with grief, and almoſt plunged Friday into deſpair. The wind had driven their boat out to ſea. It would have melted any one with compaſſion to be witneſs of Friday's exceſſive grief, when he ſaw himſelf diſappointed in the pleaſing hope of ſoon returning to his father. His natural com-

complexion forſook his face, and was ſucceeded by a ghaſtly paleneſs; he could not utter a ſingle word; his eyes were mournfully fixed upon the ground; his whole body was agitated as if his ſoul were ſtriving to part from it, and to break the bonds which held them united. Suddenly his grief burſts forth in a flood of tears, and he beats his breaſt and tears his hair, ſobbing all the while as if his heart would break.

Robinſon had learned, from his own misfortunes, to feel for thoſe of others, and particularly to calm and ſooth the ſorrows of the afflicted. He was touched with Friday's exceſs of grief; he felt for his ſituation, and endeavoured to comfort him by exhortations full of tenderneſs and good ſenſe. "Who knows," ſaid he, "whether the loſs of our canoe may not be for our advantage? Or who can tell of what ſervice this ſtorm, which has carried away our boat, may be in its conſequences either to us or to others?" "What ſervice!" ſaid

Friday tartly; "it has deprived us of our canoe, that is all."

"Then becauſe neither you nor I, narrow-minded, ſhort-ſighted beings as we are, can perceive any other effect of the ſtorm than the loſs of our canoe, do you ſuppoſe that God, whoſe wiſdom is unbounded, had no other purpoſe in view when he ſtirred up this tempeſt? How can thy feeble underſtanding dare to judge of and limit the immenſe deſigns of Omnipotence!" "That is right," ſaid Friday, "in a general view; but, as to us in particular, of what ſervice can the ſtorm be to us?" "You muſt not aſk me that queſtion. Nothing leſs than omniſcience can comprehend the boundleſs plans of that Being who rules the Univerſe. I may, indeed, exhauſt myſelf in conjectures, but who will ſatisfy me whether they are juſt or not? Perhaps there might have been raiſed or gathered over our iſland ſo great a quantity of dangerous exhalations, that nothing leſs than ſuch a ſtorm could diſperſe them, and thus pre-

ſerve

ſerve us either from ſome violent diſtemper or even from death itſelf. Perhaps this boat, the loſs of which grieves us ſo much, might only have ſerved to convey us to our ruin. Perhaps—But why all theſe perhapſes? Is it not ſufficient for us to know that it is God who raiſes and lays the tempeſt at his will, and that in him all creatures have a wiſe and tender father?"

Friday, recovering his compoſure, was aſhamed of his error, repented of his murmurs, and ſubmitted to the decree of Providence. In the mean time, Robinſon did not ceaſe to caſt his eyes round to every part of the vaſt ocean that was open to his view; he could not help looking out for ſome veſſel; but there was not the ſmalleſt appearance of one. He concluded, therefore, that he had been miſtaken, and that what he had ſuppoſed to be the report of guns had certainly been thunder. Grieved at the thought of giving up ſo agreeable a hope, he returned ſorrowfully towards his habitation.

But even here he was not at eaſe: his fancy ſtill ran upon a veſſel at anchor near the iſland. He went up, therefore, to the top of the hillock, from whence there was a full view of all the Weſtern coaſt, but he could diſcern nothing that flattered his hopes. Still vexed and uneaſy, he went to a very high hill, from the top of which he could view the Eaſtern coaſt, and climbing with all ſpeed up to the ſummit, he caſts his eyes round the ſea—But heavens! what is his joy when he diſcovers that he has not been miſtaken!

The Children. Oh dear!

Mr. Bill. He ſees a ſhip, and, notwithſtanding the diſtance, he ſees it ſo diſtinctly as to be convinced that it is one, and of pretty large burthen. You will excuſe me, my dears, if I forbear attempting to deſcribe the exceſſive tranſports of his joy. He flies like lightning to his cave, and arrives quite out of breath. He ſnatches up his arms, without which he never went to any great diſtance, and unable to ſay

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any more to Friday, who was aſtoniſhed to ſee him in ſuch a hurry, than theſe words, "There they are! quick! quick!" he remounts the ladder of ropes, and ſets off again with the utmoſt precipitation.—[*See the Frontiſpiece to this volume.*]

From his maſter's hurry and confuſion, and the few words that he ſpoke, Friday ſuppoſed the ſavages to be at hand; taking up his arms, therefore, he followed him with all ſpeed.

They had at leaſt twelve miles to go before they came to that part of the ſhore off which the veſſel ſeemed to lie at anchor; nor did Friday learn the cauſe of his maſter's hurry until he arrived at this ſpot. Robinſon ſhewed him the ſhip at a diſtance. Friday could not conceal his aſtoniſhment; for, notwithſtanding the diſtance, he gueſſed it muſt be at leaſt a hundred times bigger than any thing which he had ever ſeen of the kind.

Robinſon expreſſed his joy in a thouſand different ways; ſometimes he danced, ſometimes

times he hallooʼd, and ſometimes he embraced Friday with tears in his eyes, and congratulated the good fortune of both. Now, indeed, they ſhould ſet off for Europe, and come to England! Now Friday ſhould ſee how the people live in that country! what houſes they inhabit, and how they paſs their time in peace, enjoying all the conveniencies and pleaſures of life! Thus he ran on without ſtopping, and would perhaps have talked for an hour, had he not recollected, that to loſe the precious time in uſeleſs words was now particularly unreaſonable, and that he ought, by every method in his power, to endeavour to make himſelf viſible to the people in the ſhip. But how was this to be done? Here was what puzzled him.

He endeavoured to make them hear him, but to no purpoſe, though the wind had changed during the ſtorm, and blew, at preſent, off the iſland towards the ſhip. He then begged his friend to make a fire directly, which might be ſeen by the people

ple on board. This was quickly done; and they kindled a blaze that roſe as high as the tops of the trees. He had his eyes conſtantly fixed upon the ſhip, expecting every moment to ſee them lower a boat, and ſend it towards the ſhore. But his expectations were all in vain.

At laſt, as the fire had been lighted now more than an hour without any appearance of a boat, Friday offered to ſwim to the ſhip, notwithſtanding its diſtance, and invite the crew to come on ſhore. Robinſon joyfully conſented to this, on condition, however, that he ſhould take care not to expoſe himſelf raſhly, nor neglect any thing for the preſervation of his life. Immediately Friday ſtrips off his cloaths of matting, cuts a branch, and, holding it between his teeth, ſprings boldly into the waves. Robinſon accompanied him with his eyes and moſt friendly wiſhes.

Charlotte. But why the branch, papa?

Mr. Bill. A green branch is, among the ſavages, a ſign of peace. He who approaches

proaches them with a bough in his hand, has nothing to fear from them. It was for his ſecurity, therefore, that Friday took this precaution.

He arrived ſafe at the veſſel, and ſwam round it twice or thrice, calling the people, but nobody anſwered. Perceiving the ladder at the ſhip's ſide, he went up by it, holding the branch in his hand.

When he was high enough to ſee all over the deck, he was frightened at the ſight of an animal, ſuch as he had never ſeen in his life; it was covered with black woolly hair, and as ſoon as it ſaw Friday, it uttered ſuch noiſes as perfectly ſurpriſed him. However, it ſoon ceaſed crying out, and appeared ſo mild and ſo engaging, that Friday was now no longer afraid of it: the creature approached in a manner ſo humble, and crept along wagging its tail and whining ſo plaintively, that Friday ſuppoſed it to be entreating his help and protection. When it had crept cloſe up to him, and ſtopped, Friday ventured to pat it, and the creature ſeemed

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tranſported with joy. Friday walked all over the deck, calling the people, but nobody appeared. While he was loſt in admiration of the many ſurpriſing objects that he ſaw on the deck, and was ſtanding with his back to the hatch-way, he received all of a ſudden, ſo violent a blow behind, that he fell flat on his face. Getting up in a great fright, he looks round him, and ſtands petrified with conſternation, on beholding a creature of a pretty large ſize, with crooked horns, and a long buſhy beard, rearing itſelf upon its hind legs, and preparing, with a threatening air, to make a ſecond attack upon him. Friday roared out as loud as he was able, and jumped into the ſea.

The firſt of theſe animals, which was black, and which I need not name, as, no doubt, you know what it is, from the deſcription that I have given you of it——

Rich. Oh! it was a water ſpaniel.

Mr. Bill. You have gueſſed it. The ſpaniel, in imitation of Friday, jumps alſo into the water, and ſwims after him. Friday,

day, hearing the noiſe of ſomething that fell into the water behind him, imagined the horned monſter to be purſuing him. He was ſo terrified at the thought, that he was ſcarce able to ſwim, and ran great danger of drowning: a freſh inſtance from which we ſee how hurtful the paſſion of fear is, ſince it hurries us into dangers to which we ſhould never be expoſed, if we did not ſuffer ourſelves to be overpowered by it.

He did not even dare to look behind him: however, after he had a little recovered from his fright, he ſwam ſo faſt that the ſpaniel could ſcarcely keep up with him. When he reached the ſhore, being unable to ſpeak, he fell down quite ſpent at Robinſon's feet. The ſpaniel landed a few minutes after.

Robinſon ſpared no pains to bring his faithful companion to himſelf. He rubbed his temples, ſhook him, and called him aloud by his name. But it was ſome time before Friday opened his eyes and ſpoke. As ſoon as he was able, he began to relate

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the terrible adventure that had happened to him; how the ſhip appeared to him a great mountain of wood, on which ſtood up three large trees (meaning the maſts); how the black creature had ſhewn him a thouſand marks of fondneſs; and how the monſter with the beard and horns had attempted to kill him: laſtly, he added, that he believed the monſter to be maſter of the floating mountain of wood, as he ſaw no man on it.

Robinſon liſtened to him with a good deal of ſurpriſe. The horned monſter he ſuppoſed to be a goat. As to the ſhip, he concluded that it was faſt upon a rock or ſand bank, and that the crew, fearing to be wrecked, had quitted it, and taken to their boats for ſafety, but he could not conceive what was become of them. If they had reached the iſland, the ſpot where he then ſtood with Friday was the moſt likely place for their landing; but he could perceive no traces of them. If they had periſhed, yet either their bodies or their boats, or both, would, in all probability, have been thrown upon

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ſome part of the ſhore. However, at length, he recollected that the wind had changed during the ſtorm, and, from an Eaſterly gale, had ſhifted ſuddenly to the Weſt. This circumſtance ſeemed to explain to him what he found ſo much difficulty in comprehending at firſt.

"Certainly," ſaid he to himſelf, "the people who took to their boats muſt have been driven back by the Weſterly gale from reaching this ſhore; the wind muſt have carried them Eaſtward; ſo that, perhaps, they have periſhed in the open ſea; perhaps they were carried away by ſome current; or, perhaps, before the ſhifting of the wind, they might have touched on one of the iſlands to the Weſtward. Heaven grant that this laſt conjecture be true!" cried he, with a ſigh. And he communicated his opinion to Friday, who thought it not improbable.

"But what are we to do?" ſaid Robinſon. "Whether the crew have periſhed, or are only toſſed about by the winds, in either

ther caſe we can do nothing better than unload the ſhip of whatever effects we can move. But how are we to attempt this now that we have no canoe?" At that moment he felt for the loſs of his canoe almoſt as much as Friday had a few hours before; he thought of every method poſſible either to replace it, or to ſubſtitute ſomething elſe in its room; but he was a long time without hitting upon any thing that would anſwer. To build another canoe, would take up too much time. To ſwim to the ſhip, was an attempt that he durſt not undertake on account of the diſtance. Beſides, what could he expect to ſave by doing ſo?

Rich. I know very well what I would have done.

Mr. Bill. Well, what would you have done?

Rich. I would have made a raft.

Mr. Bill. That was preciſely the idea that ſtruck Robinſon at laſt. "A raft," ſaid he to himſelf, "will be ſooneſt made."

Henry. Now, what is a raft?

Rich.

Rich. A raft is a number of beams tied cloſe together, ſo that one can walk upon them, and this will carry you upon the water as well as a boat.

Mr. Bill. You are very right; and juſt ſuch a raft did Robinſon intend to make to carry him to the ſhip, that he might ſave whatever goods he could bring away. It was reſolved that one of them ſhould go to the cave and bring back proviſions for a day, as well as all the cordage and tools that he ſhould find. As Friday was the more active of the two, he was charged with this buſineſs; and while he performed it, Robinſon cut down trees proper for the raft.

Friday could not be back before nightfall: in the mean time Robinſon was much delighted with the ſpaniel, for which he felt a kind regard as coming from Europe.

The ſpaniel, for its part, ſeemed perfectly happy in meeting with ſo good a maſter, and played a number of amuſing tricks before Robinſon. At Friday's return, Robinſon gave the ſpaniel part of his ſupper, though

though this was the firſt food that he had taſted himſelf the whole day. Luckily it happened to be a moon-light night; they both, therefore, worked without ceaſing till near midnight, when they found themſelves ſo overpowered with ſleep, that they could no longer reſiſt its approaches.

Edw. I do not wonder at that; they had not ſlept the whole night before.

Geo. Beſides, they had been ſtirring about ſo much all the day, eſpecially Friday.

Mr. Bill. They lay down upon the graſs, and the ſpaniel at their feet, as their guard. Thus, till the return of the dawn, they refreſhed their bodies, and gathered new ſtrength in ſound and undiſturbed repoſe.

TWENTY-FOURTH EVENING.

MR. Bill. Scarce had the ruddy morning begun to appear in the Eaſtern part of the horizon, when the wakeful Robinſon rouſed his companion to go on with the work which they had begun the day before. They worked ſo inceſſantly the whole day, that the raft was finiſhed that very evening.

Thy had joined a double row of trunks of trees together in ſuch a manner with cords and willow twigs, that it formed, as it were, a ſolid floor, fit to lie even on the water, and about twenty feet long, with nearly the ſame breadth. They had alſo been careful to conſtruct this raft upon rollers cloſe to the beach, that they might the more eaſily ſet it afloat without loſs of time.

Fortunately, the tide was on the ebb about break of day. They did not delay a moment in launching their raft, that they might have

have the advantage of the ebb, which, like a current, would carry them out towards the ſhip. They puſh off, are now upon the open ſea, and in leſs than half an hour come along-ſide of the ſhip.

What were Robinſon's feelings when he approached this European veſſel! He would have kiſſed it, and glued his lips to every part of it if poſſible! That it came from Europe, was built, manned, and conveyed thither by Europeans, were circumſtances which could not fail to render it dear to him. But, alas! theſe Europeans themſelves had diſappeared—perhaps had been ſwallowed up by the waves; an afflicting ſurmiſe to Robinſon, who would chearfully have ſacrificed half of the days that he had ſtill to live, on condition of finding the crew, and ſetting ſail with them for Europe. But as he was obliged to give up this hope, it only remained for him now to ſave as much of the goods out of the ſhip as he could for his own uſe.

Geo. But could he take poſſeſſion of goods that did not belong to him?

Mr. Bill. What think *you*, Richard, could he do ſo?

Rich. He might, to be ſure, take them out of the ſhip, and carry them aſhore; but if the owners appeared, he was obliged to reſtore them.

Mr. Bill. Thus juſtice decrees certainly. If he did not take out the goods, they would be ſpoiled by degrees in the ſea-water; he had, therefore, ſome right to the uſe of them; he might, without any ſcruple, take to himſelf whatever he found moſt neceſſary, and keep it, looking upon it as a recompenſe, which the owners, if ever they appeared, could not juſtly refuſe him for the trouble that he had taken in ſaving the remainder of the cargo.

As to what concerns ſhipwrecks in general, the following cuſtoms are obſerved in ſome civilized ſtates. The ſhipwrecked goods are generally divided into three parts; the firſt for the owners, if living, or, if not, for their heirs; the ſecond is given to thoſe

who

who have ſaved the goods; and the laſt belongs to the ſovereign of the country.

Edw. The ſovereign! Why has he a ſhare?

Mr. Bill. That is a queſtion to which I cannot, at preſent, give you a very ſatisfactory anſwer; however, I will inform you of every thing on the ſubject that is within your comprehenſion. The prince or ſovereign of the country, by whatever title he is ſtyled, maintains upon his coaſts a number of perſons who are obliged, by their ſtation, to look after ſhipwrecked goods, that none of them be carried off, but that whatever is ſaved may be lodged in a place of ſecurity. Without this precaution, the merchant, to whom the cargo belongs, would ſeldom recover any part of it, becauſe the goods would always be either ſtolen or ſpoiled. Now, as the ſovereign is at the charge of maintaining theſe people, it is but juſt that he ſhould be indemnified by thoſe who reap the advantage of ſo expenſive an eſtabliſhment. For this reaſon, it has been regulated in ſome countries, that the

third part of ſhipwrecked goods ſhould belong to the ſovereign of the place.

Conſequently, Robinſon was authorized to appropriate to himſelf two-thirds of the goods that he might be able to recover out of the ſhip, and to apply them to whatever uſe ſhould ſeem beſt to him, as being his lawful property.

Rich. Two-thirds?

Mr. Bill. Yes; one-third for his pains and trouble, and the other, as being the only lawful ſovereign of the iſland near which the veſſel had been wrecked.

Edw. But who made him ſovereign of the iſland?

Mr. Bill. Common ſenſe. A country, like any thing elſe, which has no owner, naturally belongs to him who firſt takes poſſeſſion of it; and ſuch was exactly the caſe here.

When Robinſon was a little recovered from the exceſs of joy which he felt at the ſight of an European ſhip, his firſt wiſh was that it might not prove to be damaged, but

capable

capable of being ſet afloat. In this caſe he was reſolved to embark in it with Friday, and ſet ſail, if not for Europe, at leaſt for ſome European colony in South America, or the Weſt Indies, notwithſtanding the danger of being on the open ſea in a ſhip without ſufficient hands to work it, and without having the knowledge of navigation which a ſea-voyage requires. He ſailed round the ſhip on his raft, and examined the depth of water about it, but had the mortification to be convinced that he muſt never expect to ſee it afloat again.

The ſtorm had lodged it between two rocks, where it was jammed in ſo faſt, that there was not the leaſt poſſibility of moving it one way or the other, and it was likely to remain in its preſent ſituation until the force of the waves ſhould diſengage it by daſhing it in pieces. Diſappointed in all his hopes for the preſervation of the ſhip, Robinſon haſtened aboard to examine the cargo, and ſee whether that was damaged. Friday ſtill remembered his fright ſo ſtrongly, that he

could ſcarce perſuade himſelf to accompany his maſter upon deck. He ventured, however, at laſt, though not without trembling, as the firſt object that met his eyes was the terrible horned monſter.

But he was no longer ſo fierce as before: he was lain down, and ſeemed exceedingly weak and hardly able to riſe. The fact was, that, for three days paſt, nobody being at hand to give him his uſual food, he had received little or no nouriſhment. Robinſon, who ſuſpected this to be the caſe the moment he ſaw the animal's enfeebled ſtate, made it his firſt care to ſeek for ſomething to appeaſe its hunger. As he was very well acquainted with the inſide of a ſhip, he was not long in finding what he ſought, and had the pleaſure to ſee the goat devour with the greateſt eagerneſs what he brought it; while Friday, for his part, could never ſufficiently admire the odd figure of the animal, as he thought it, having never ſeen any thing like it before.

Robinſon began next to take a ſurvey of the ſhip; he went from deck to deck, and

from cabin to cabin, and found every where a thouſand things, which, in Europe, one would ſcarce think worth looking at, but which to him were of infinite importance. In one part was a ſtock of biſcuit, rice, flour, corn, wine, gunpowder, balls, ſhot; in another place were ſhip cannon, muſkets, piſtols, ſwords, hangers, and cutlaſſes; elſewhere there were hatchets, ſaws, pincers, gimlets, raſps, planes, hammers, iron bars, nails, knives, ſciſſars, needles, and pins. Farther on, he ſees pots, porringers, plates, ſpoons, tongs, bellows, fire-ſhovels, and other kitchen utenſils, ſome of wood, others of iron, tin, and copper. Laſtly, he finds cheſts full of cloaths, linen, ſtockings, ſhoes, boots, and a number of other things, for any ſingle one of which, if it had been offered to him for ſale, Robinſon would freely have given his lump of gold, which he had long ſince forgotten.

Friday was loſt in amaze at the ſight of ſo many objects, all equally unknown to him, and the uſes of which he could not ſo much

as goes. Robinson, on the other hand, could not contain himself; he wept for joy: like a child, he touched every thing, snatched up every thing, but laid it down as soon as he saw any thing else that he liked better. He was going, at last, down to the hold, but found a considerable quantity of water in it; a proof that there was a leak in the ship's bottom.

He considered what he had best carry ashore in this his first trip, and found some difficulty in making his choice. Now he thought one thing most indispensably necessary, now another, and frequently rejects what he had just preferred, and makes it give place to another, which is also rejected in its turn. At length, however, his choice was fixed upon the following objects, as being to him the most valuable of any that he could carry away: 1st. two barrels, one of gunpowder, the other of shot; 2d. two muskets, two brace of pistols, two hangers, and two cutlasses; 3d. two suits of cloaths, complete, for himself and Friday; 4th. two dozen of

shirts;

shirts; 5th. two hatchets, two saws, two planes, two iron bars, some hammers, and several other iron tools; 6th. some books, paper, pens, and ink; 7th. a tinder box, with matches, flint, and steel; 8th. a hogshead of biscuit; 9th. some pieces of sail cloth; 10th. and last, the goat.

Henry. The goat? Oh! he could have done without the goat.

Mr. Bell. That is very true, Henry; but the goat could not so well have done without him. Robinson was too compassionate to leave the poor creature exposed to the danger of perishing with the ship, which might be sunk before he came back. Besides, there was room for her (for it was a she goat) on the raft after it had been loaded with every thing that seemed to claim his greatest regard. No! he did not forget the poor goat—he carried her with him.

But he disdained to take many articles which in Europe would have been eagerly seized the first of all. A barrel of gold

duſt, and a caſket of the moſt valuable diamonds, he found amongſt the captain's effects, but was in no wiſe tempted to take them away, as they could not poſſibly be of any ſervice to him.

He had employed ſo much time in examining the ſhip, in opening and emptying the cheſts, in indulging his joy and admiration, in chuſing and placing upon the raft what he had a mind to carry away, that, when all was done, he had only an hour to ſpare before the tide would begin to flow again. They were obliged to take the advantage of it; for, without the flow of the tide, they would hardly be able to gain the ſhore. Robinſon ſpent this hour in dining after the European faſhion, which he had not done for a long time before.

He brought out, therefore, a piece of hung beef, a few herrings, ſome biſcuit, butter, cheeſe, and a bottle of wine, and laid the whole upon a table in the cabin. Friday and he ſat down upon chairs. The very circumſtance of dining at a table, ſit-

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ting upon chairs, having plates, helping themselves with knives and forks, in short, of making a meal with the advantage of so many European conveniencies, gave Robinson a pleasure that it would be impossible to express: not to mention the victuals, particularly the bread, which had been so often in vain the object of his wishes. You cannot imagine how delicious they tasted to his palate. One should, like him, be deprived for nine years successively of all those sorts of food, and all those conveniencies, in order to conceive, in its full extent, the luxury that he enjoyed.

Friday, who knew nothing of the European manner of eating, was very much puzzled in handling his knife, and still more his fork. Robinson shewed him how to use them; but Friday, endeavouring to imitate him, and to put a bit of meat into his mouth with the fork, from pure habit lifted up his hand with the handle of the fork to his lips, while the piece of meat went off towards his ear. Robinson having made Friday taste

the wine, he firmly refuſed to drink any of it: accuſtomed, as he was, to ſpring water, his palate could not bear the fiery ſtrength of a fermented liquor. The biſcuit, on the other hand, was quite to his taſte.

The tide now beginning to flow, they get upon the raft, puſh off, and are carried gently towards the iſland. In a ſhort time they come to ſhore, and haſten to land the goods with which the raft was loaded.

Friday was very curious to know the meaning of all thoſe things and their uſes. To ſatisfy his curioſity, Robinſon goes out of ſight behind a buſh, and dreſſes himſelf in a ſhirt, ſtockings, and ſhoes, together with an officer's uniform complete; then, putting a laced hat upon his head, and a ſword by his ſide, he comes all at once, and ſhews himſelf to Friday. Seized with aſtoniſhment, Friday ſtarts back a few paces, doubting, at firſt ſight, whether it were really his maſter, or ſome being above the human ſpecies. Robinſon could not help laughing

at

at his amazement; he held his hand out to him in a friendly manner, assuring him that he was still the same, still his friend Robinson, though he had undergone a change of dress, and, in some measure, of fortune. He gave him a suit of sailor's cloaths, shewed him the use of each part, and desired him also to retire behind the thicket and change his dress.

Friday went accordingly; but, how long was he dressing! and how many trials did he make! He put on each part of the dress wrong: for instance, he put his two legs through the sleeves of the shirt, ran his two arms into the breeches, covered his head with the seat of them, and tried to button the jacket behind. What awkward attempts at dressing! However, he was fortunate enough to correct all his mistakes, and, at length, dressed himself properly at all points.

He jumped for joy, like a child, when he saw how well he was clothed, how convenient and easy this dress was to the body,

and

and how proper to defend him from the ſtings of muſkitoes. The ſhoes alone were diſagreeable to him; he thought them inconvenient and uſeleſs. He begged leave, therefore, to put them off, and Robinſon gave him full permiſſion to do in that reſpect whatever he pleaſed.

He alſo ſhewed him the uſe of the hatchets and ſeveral other tools, with which he was quite delighted. They began to make immediate uſe of them, in cutting a maſt for their raft, that, with the help of a ſail, they might, for the future, be able to go to and from the ſhip without being obliged to wait for the ebb and flow of the tide. Robinſon undertook this taſk alone, and ſent Friday to his dwelling-place to milk the lamas, which they had neglected for two days paſt.

During his abſence, Robinſon loaded one of the muſkets. He propoſed to have the pleaſure of ſurpriſing his friend with the aſtoniſhing effects of gunpowder. As Friday, at his return, was admiring the diſ-

patch

patch with which Robinſon had finiſhed his work, the latter perceived a ſea-gull flying away with a fiſh that he had ſeized out of the water. He ſnatches up his muſket, and ſays to Friday, "Do you ſee that ſea-gull? He ſhall fall this moment." And ſo ſaying, he levels at the bird, draws the trigger, and fires. The ſea-gull falls.

Imagine, if you can, Friday's terror and ſurpriſe. He fell down as if it were himſelf that had been ſhot. Immediately his old ſuperſtition revived concerning *Toupan*, who produces the thunder. Aſtoniſhed and confuſed as he was, he took his maſter for *Toupan*. He raiſed himſelf up on his knees, and held out his hands, in a trembling and ſuppliant manner, towards Robinſon, without being able to utter a ſingle word.

Robinſon was far from making a joke of any thing that concerned religion, though ever ſo erroneous. The moment, therefore, that he ſuſpected Friday's ſuperſtitious notions, he was vexed that he had not previouſly informed him of what he was going

to do when he fired, and, therefore, haſtened to clear up his miſtake. He raiſed him in a friendly manner, embraced him affectionately, bid him take courage and ceaſe trembling; and added, that he would teach him, in a moment, how to make the ſame thunder and lightning; for there was nothing but what was perfectly natural in every thing he had ſeen and heard. He explained to him the nature and effects of gunpowder; ſhewed him the conſtruction of the gun; and, loading it in his preſence, gave it to him, that he might fire it off. But Friday was ſtill in too great a fright, and begged Robinſon to try the experiment in his ſtead. He, therefore, ſet up a mark about a hundred yards off, and fired, while Friday ſtood by his ſide.

He was very near falling a ſecond time, ſo terrible did what he ſaw and heard appear to him. There were ſeveral grains of ſhot in the mark, which had entered pretty deeply into the wood. Robinſon, having remarked this to him, made him perceive

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how ſecure they muſt be for the future againſt all attacks of the ſavages, while they had this artificial thunder and lightning in their power. What he was now witneſs to, and what he had ſeen in the ſhip, inſpired him with ſo profound a veneration for Europeans in general and Robinſon in particular, that for ſome days he could not recover that air of familiarity which he had uſually kept up with his friend. Night coming on put an end to the agreeable labours of this happy day.

TWENTY-FIFTH EVENING.

MR. BILL. I ſuppoſe it will be agreeable to you, my dear children, if I begin directly, and without any preface, upon our friend Robinſon's affairs.

He

He had not ever ſince his coming to the iſland enjoyed a more agreeable night's reſt than the laſt, becauſe he had not ſeen himſelf ſo happy as at preſent; and never was man more touched with love and gratitude towards his Supreme Benefactor, to whom he was indebted for this happineſs. How often, when alone, did he offer up his thanks, in the moſt reſpectful poſture, to the Heavenly Diſpoſer of all Things, for the bleſſings that he had vouchſafed him! Nor was he content with feeling theſe ſentiments of gratitude himſelf, he endeavoured alſo to communicate them to Friday. With this view, he taught him, before they went to reſt, a prayer of thankſgiving, which they both repeated with ſoftened and grateful hearts, to the praiſe of the Supreme Being, the Univerſal Father of Nature.

The next morning they roſe pretty early, and carried all their goods into a coppice, where they covered them with boughs of trees to ſecure them from the rain if it

ſhould

ſhould fall, and then ſet off with the firſt ebb to return to the wreck.

I forgot to tell you that they had provided themſelves with oars, ſo that this trip was made in much leſs time than the former, and to the full as fortunately. They took care, in the firſt place, to lower down upon their raft all the planks that they could find in the ſhip, with which they might cover the raft as it were with another floor, and ſo keep the goods much drier than thoſe which they had carried away the day before.

Robinſon examined the cargo afreſh, to chuſe whatever he ſhould think preferable in ſo great a quantity of goods, which he could not carry away all at once. He was not, indeed, ſo much puzzled this time, as he had already ſecured the moſt neceſſary articles; however, he choſe nothing without fully weighing the value of it.

Amongſt other things he reſolved to carry away one of the ſix ſmall carriage guns that were in the ſhip.

Rich.

Rich. A gun! I think he might have carried away ſomething more uſeful.

Mr. Bill. Yes, ſo we may think, who ſee things at a diſtance. Robinſon, on the contrary, who judged of his ſituation from a nearer view of it, thought this gun a very neceſſary article, were it only for his eaſe and ſecurity.

Rich. How ſo?

Mr. Bill. The part of the ſhore, where he was obliged for the preſent to lodge what goods he had brought out of the ſhip, was open on every ſide, and, unfortunately, at no great diſtance from the ſpot where the ſavages uſed to land. He might, indeed, depend with tolerable ſecurity upon the uſe of his guns and piſtols, in caſe of an attack, but the idea that he ſhould be thereby reduced to the cruel neceſſity of killing ſome of thoſe unhappy ſavages, made him ſhudder whenever he thought of it. His deſign was, therefore, in having a piece of cannon on the ſhore, to fire a ball over their heads when they approached the iſland

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in their canoes, and ſo terrify them, and make them perhaps ſheer off and return to their own country.

You ſee now, my dear Richard, how liable we are to be miſtaken, when we take upon us to give an opinion concerning the behaviour of other perſons. We very ſeldom know all the motives that induce a man to act; how can we, therefore, be ſo preſumptuous as to ſet up for judges of his actions? A wiſe man thinks that he can never be too circumſpect in the judgment which he paſſes upon the conduct of other perſons; he even forbears to give an opinion unleſs he be obliged; he is ſenſible that he has enough to do to look to himſelf and his own affairs; and thus, my dear children, we will endeavour to act for the future.

Beſides the piece of cannon, they placed alſo upon the raft the following articles: 1ſt. three ſmall bags, one of rye, another of barley, and the laſt of peaſe; 2d. a cheſt

cheſt of nails and ſcrews; 3d. a dozen of hatchets; 4th. a barrel of gunpowder, with balls and ſhot; 5th. a ſail; 6th. a grindſtone.

Rich. Why that?

Mr. Bill. To ſharpen knives, hatchets, and other tools, when they required it.

Rich. Were there no ſtones upon the iſland?

Mr. Bill. Yes, plenty; but none fit for ſharpening their inſtruments. Have not you obſerved, that thoſe ſtones which are uſed for that purpoſe are of a particular ſort, and much ſofter than moſt others?

Rich. Yes, I have.

Mr. Bill. Well, Robinſon had never yet found upon his iſland any of that ſort of ſtone, which has leſs hardneſs than ſtone in general, and ſeems compoſed of grains of ſand. But a grindſtone is not only exceedingly uſeful, but indiſpenſably neceſſary to thoſe who make uſe of ſharp iron tools. He preferred it, therefore, without heſitation,

tion to the gold-duſt and diamonds, which he had valued ſo little before, and had left behind him in his firſt trip to the veſſel.

Before he ſet off to return, Robinſon examined the condition of the ſhip. He found that the leak was gaining ground, and that the rubbing of her ſides againſt the rock, occaſioned by the motion of the waves, had already looſened and ſtarted ſeveral planks. He foreſaw, therefore, that the firſt guſt of wind would daſh the ſhip to pieces, and concluded that he muſt be expeditious if he wiſhed to ſave much more of the cargo.

As the wind blew then towards ſhore, they were able to reach it ſolely by the aſſiſtance of their ſail and oars, though the ebb, which had ſparge run half down, was againſt them. In their way to the ſhore, Robinſon blamed himſelf much for one thing. His way of thinking here proves him to have been a perfect lover of juſtice.

Edw. For what did he blame himſelf, papa?

Mr. Bill. For not carrying away the gold-duſt and diamonds.

Edw. What would he have done with them?

Mr. Bill. He had no view of uſing theſe things himſelf, but he reaſoned thus: "It is not abſolutely impoſſible," ſaid he, "that the captain of the veſſel may be ſtill alive, and come ſome day or other to examine whether he cannot ſave part of the cargo. If a gale of wind were to riſe and daſh the ſhip to pieces before you could go back to it, and thus the diamonds and gold-duſt were to be loſt, how could you juſtify yourſelf to the owner and to your own conſcience, for having thought merely of ſaving what might be of uſe to yourſelf, without paying the leaſt attention to his intereſt by ſaving the goods that would be moſt valuable to him? Perhaps his fortune, and that of many other perſons, depend on this ſlight inſtance of attention which you have neglected to pay them. Robinſon! Robinſon!" cried he, highly diſſatisfied with himſelf,

himſelf, "how far art thou ſtill from being as juſt as thou oughteſt to be!"

He was on the point of puſhing back again before he landed, his conſcience was ſo touched at his neglecting a duty which he with reaſon looked upon as ſacred.

In the mean time they approached the ſhore, and, juſt as they were about to land, they ran the riſk of ſeeing all their goods loſt in the ſea; for, as it continued ſtill to ebb, and the depth of the water leſſened every moment, the headmoſt part of the raft was ſoon upon the dry ſand, and, conſequently, higher than the ſternmoſt, which was ſupported by the water, that was falling every inſtant. Luckily Robinſon and Friday were both aſtern, and, therefore, able to ſtop the goods which were ſlipping off, and to keep them from rolling into the ſea.

After they had made all things ſteady, they were obliged to walk in the water and mud up to the knees before they could get them aſhore. By their care and precaution in this buſineſs, nothing was either loſt or da-

maged, and they were ready to put to ſea again before the return of the tide.

Robinſon was no ſooner aboard the ſhip but he haſtened to convey upon the raft the barrel of gold-duſt and the caſket of jewels; and, having thus relieved his conſcience of a load which lay upon it, he thought he had now a right to think of himſelf.

In this trip he carried away, among other articles, ſome wheel-barrows which happened to be aboard, I know not for what uſe; a great quantity of cloaths and linen, a number of tools and pieces of furniture; a lantern, and all the papers that were in the captain's cabin. As the tide was now flowing up, they ſet ſail, and, having the advantage of wind and tide, they were quickly aſhore.

Robinſon ſpent the reſt of the day in taking a precaution which he thought indiſpenſably neceſſary. He trembled at the idea, that, were a heavy ſhower to come on, he ſhould be diſabled from uſing what he counted the moſt valuable of all his effects, namely,

namely, his gunpowder. To prevent ſuch an accident, he reſolved that very day to make a tent of a large ſailcloth which he had ſaved, and to lodge his treaſure under it, where it would be ſafely ſheltered from the rain.

As he was now provided with ſciſſars and with needle and thread, this work was ſoon finiſhed, and Friday was not long before he knew enough of it to be able to aſſiſt him. He could not ſufficiently admire the admirable invention of the needle and ſciſſars; and frequently declared, that, in compariſon of the induſtrious Europeans, he and his countrymen were no better than poor idiots.

They finiſhed the tent before ſun-ſet, and Robinſon had ſtill time to ſhew Friday the effect of a great gun. He charged it with a ball, and pointed the muzzle towards the ſea, that the ball might ſkim the ſurface of the water, and Friday might ſee diſtinctly how far the gun would carry. Robinſon put fire to the touch-hole, and though Fri-

day was already in ſome meaſure prepared for it by two ſhots from the muſket, yet the exploſion being now much louder, terrified him ſo much, that he trembled from head to foot. The ball marked its courſe on the ſurface of the water by lightly dipping and rebounding until it was out of ſight. Friday affirmed, that a ſingle ſhot like this would be ſufficient to turn his whole nation of countrymen to ſudden flight, if they were even approaching by thouſands; becauſe they would not have a doubt that he who could produce ſuch thunder muſt certainly be Toupan.

After night-fall, Robinſon put a light in his lantern to caſt an eye over the papers that he had ſaved, in order to diſcover the ſhip's deſtination, and to whom ſhe belonged; but, unfortunately, all theſe papers, as well as the books, were written in a language that he did not underſtand. Here, therefore, he had freſh occaſion to be ſorry for having neglected the ſtudy of foreign languages when he might have learnt them.

But

But this ſorrow, coming too late, was of no uſe.

Two circumſtances, however, which he obſerved, gave him ſome information concerning the ſhip's deſtination, and the object of her voyage. He found, amongſt others, ſome letters for perſons in Barbadoes, an iſland in the Weſt Indies, where there is a great traffic for ſlaves.

Henry. Traffic for ſlaves, papa?

Mr. Bill. I will explain it to you. In Africa—you remember, I ſuppoſe, which way that quarter of the world lies?

Henry. Oh, yes; towards the South.

Mr. Bill. In Africa, which is the country of the negroes, men, in ignorance and ſtupidity, do not ſeem to differ much from the brutes. Their chiefs or kings, who are as ſavage as themſelves, treat them accordingly. If any Europeans arrive on their coaſts, whole crowds of blacks are offered to them for ſale, as we ſell cattle here in a market. Even fathers bring their children, and exchange them for trifles.

Thus the Europeans every year purchaſe a great number of negroes, and carry them to the Weſt Indies, where they are forced to work at the hardeſt labour, and are treated in every reſpect with a great deal of ſeverity. The lot of ſuch a *ſlave* (for ſo theſe unfortunate people are called by their purchaſers) is truly wretched, nor can we wonder that many have even preferred death to it.

Rich. It is not well done to uſe human beings in that manner.

Mr. Bill. Certainly it is very unjuſt; and we have hopes that in time this iniquitous traffic of ſlaves will be aboliſhed.

Robinſon found alſo, among the papers, an account from which he gathered that the ſhip was bound for Barbadoes, and had a hundred ſlaves aboard. Having communicated this circumſtance to Friday, he added, "Who knows if theſe poor wretches are not indebted for their liberty to the ſtorm which occaſioned the ſhip to ſtrike? Who knows whether they have not ſaved themſelves

ſelves by the boats, and landed on ſome iſland, where, their tyrants having no longer any power over them, they now live after their faſhion, happy and contented?" Friday agreed that this conjecture was not wholly improbable. "Well then, my friend," replied Robinſon, with ſome warmth, "could you now repeat the queſtion that you lately aſked me?"

Frid. What queſtion?

Rob. You aſked me, of what uſe could the ſtorm be that carried away our canoe?

Friday looked down, quite aſhamed and confounded.

"Oh! Friday," ſaid Robinſon, enlivened with pious zeal, "acknowledge, here, the hand of an all-powerful and all-wiſe God, which has appeared ſenſibly in this affair. Conſider what the ſtorm has given us, in return for the little that it has taken away. Caſt your eyes on all theſe different articles; they are ſuch as render life commodious and happy. Whence ſhould we have had them were it not for the ſtorm? It is, in-

deed, an unpleasant thing to owe one's happiness to the misfortunes of another; yet, the greatest number of those who were in the ship are now, perhaps, better off than before she struck. As this supposition is not wholly void of probability, what think you now of the power which governs the world?"

"I think," answered Friday, "the wisdom and goodness of that power are inexpressible, and I was a senseless idiot in saying what I did." At the same time, he lifted up his hands and eyes towards Heaven, and implored pardon for the fault which he had committed through stupidity.

Robinson took as much care of the papers which he had been looking over, as of the diamonds and gold-dust, that, if ever he returned to Europe, he might, by means of them, discover the persons to whom he should restore the treasure that he had saved out of the ship.

For six days successively they made two or three trips a day to the wreck, and brought

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to land every thing that they could possibly convey away. A thousand little matters which we would scarcely think it worth while to pick up, because we have never felt how disagreeable the loss of them is, were of infinite value to them, and, therefore, they did not neglect to take them away. One part of the cargo consisted of elephants' teeth; those they did not touch, because they could make no use of them. They also left behind several hogsheads of coffee, as Robinson was determined not to fall again into the habit of using pernicious superfluities though ever so agreeable; but they tore up and carried away as many of the ship's planks as they could, because they seemed likely to be useful, and, consequently, valuable. They took away even the remaining five pieces of cannon, together with all the iron that they either found loose or could loosen from the ship's works.

After they had made eighteen trips, all with good success, they observed, as they were on board the nineteenth time, that a storm was rising

rising very fast. They made haste, therefore, to load the raft and push off, hoping to gain the shore by rowing before the storm should gather strength. But in vain; they were scarce half way towards the shore when a violent gale of wind, accompanied with thunder, lightning, and rain, swelled and agitated the sea in such a manner, that the waves, rolling over the raft, carried off all the goods that were upon it. As to themselves, they held pretty close for some time to the mast, so that the waves could not wash them away, though at times they went clean over their heads.

At length, the slightness of the raft began to give way to the fury of the waves. The cordage and osier bindings, which held the pieces of it together, being loosened, all the beams of which it consisted quickly came asunder.

Harriet. Heavens! what will become of poor Robinson?

The Children. Softly! have patience!

Mr. Bill. Friday sought to save himself by

by ſwimming, and Robinſon ſeized a piece of wood, with which he was ſometimes plunged into the deep, and ſometimes rode upon the ridge of the waves. But, being longer under water than above, he had loſt his breath, and could neither ſee nor hear. His ſtrength now forſook him, and he was almoſt inſenſible; he utters a weak cry, and ſinks down, oppreſſed by a huge wave, which carries away the beam that ſupported him.

Happily his faithful Friday was not far from him, though he might have ſaved himſelf and gained the ſhore ſooner if he had choſen to do ſo. When he ſaw him ſink, he, without heſitating a moment, dived down, ſeized him with his left hand, and by means of his right roſe with him again to the ſurface of the water. He then exerted himſelf with ſo much ſucceſs, that, in a few minutes, he reached the ſhore with his maſter's body.

The Children. Ah! his body!

Mr. Bill. You all ſeem to be alarmed. I uſe the word body becauſe Robinſon ſhewed no ſigns of life.

Friday,

Friday, who was diſtracted at his maſter's preſent condition, carried him a little farther up on the beach, hung over him, called him with a loud voice, ſhook him, rubbed him, and joined his lips to his mouth to communicate breath to him if poſſible. At length he had the inexpreſſible ſatisfaction to perceive ſigns of life in him; he, therefore, continued his exertions, and Robinſon quickly recovered the uſe of his faculties.

Opening his eyes, he aſked, in a weak and trembling voice, "Where am I?" "In my arms, my dear maſter!" anſwered Friday, with tears in his eyes. An affecting ſcene now took place between them. Robinſon thanked Friday a thouſand times, and called him his ſaviour: Friday, for his part, thro' joy at ſeeing him reſtored to himſelf, was almoſt ready to run wild.

My dear children, we cannot finiſh the account of that day's adventures with any circumſtance more intereſting than this. Enough, therefore, for the preſent time.

TWENTY-SIXTH EVENING.

MR. BILL. Well, my dear children, our friend Robinson is reſtored to life once more. A good night's ſleep in his tent, upon a bed that he had ſaved from the wreck, recovered him ſo well, that he was up at day-break; he felt himſelf poſſeſſed of his uſual ſtrength, and returned thanks to God for having preſerved both his life and health. The ſtorm had continued the whole night, and he waited, with impatience, until it was broad day-light, to ſee what was become of the ſhip.

The ſun was now above the horizon, and Robinſon ſaw, to his grief, that the ſhip had diſappeared. Planks and timbers, ſcattered here and there upon the beach, were ſufficient tokens that the ſtorm had daſhed it to pieces. This being the

caſe,

caſe, he found ſome reaſon to applaud his own foreſight in ſaving every part of the cargo that he could. Happy the man whoſe prudence and caution always regulate his conduct, and who, in all the accidents which deprive him of any advantage, can ſay to himſelf, with truth, as Robinſon could upon this occaſion, that it was not his fault! How much this inward ſatisfaction will lighten the misfortunes, which, without it, would be accompanied with the greateſt vexation!

Robinſon and Friday were particularly careful to gather all the remains of the wreck together on one ſpot of the beach. They foreſaw that every plank and every ſplinter might be of uſe another time. When they had finiſhed every thing that concerned the wreck, they formed a regular plan of the employments which were to take place next.

The object was, at preſent, to convey all theſe goods to their dwelling-place; but they thought it dangerous, while they carried

ried one parcel, to be at ſo great a diſtance from the reſt. Robinſon ſcolded it, therefore, that they ſhould carry the goods and ſtand guard alternately, the one in the morning, the other in the afternoon. He loaded the carriage guns, ranged them beſide each other, like a battery, and pointed them towards the ſea. They kindled a fire, which he who ſtood ſentinel was to take care to keep up, and they placed a match beſide the guns, that they might be ready to fire whenever the caſe required it.

Robinſon made the firſt journey to carry the goods home. In order to ſpare his beſt cloaths, he had dreſt himſelf like a ſailor, and, inſtead of the weapons that he formerly wore, he had now a cutlaſs by his ſide, and two loaded piſtols in his girdle. He began by loading his wheel-barrow with ſome caſks of gunpowder and other articles which were moſt in danger from the rain. The water-ſpaniel, which had never quitted him, was, by no means, a uſeleſs companion on this journey. Robinſon harneſſed

him

him to the wheel-barrow, and the dog was of conſiderable ſervice to him in conveying the burthen forward. As theſe ſpaniels are very docile, and capable of being taught many things, this dog was ſoon trained to his new employment, and acquitted himſelf in it as well as any beaſt accuſtomed to the draught. He carried alſo a parcel in his mouth, which he had been taught to do by thoſe to whom he formerly belonged.

At his return, Robinſon brought all his lamas, ready harneſſed for carrying burthens, in order to uſe them for that purpoſe. As there were ſeven of them, and each of them was able to carry one hundred and fifty pounds weight, you may eaſily calculate the weight of goods which they, all together, conveyed home every journey.

So many articles could not all be ſtowed in Robinſon's cellar. He haſtened, therefore, to pitch another large tent in the encloſed ground before his cave. This was meant as a ſtore-tent for the preſent, until other means ſhould be contrived for ſecuring

ring the things. In eight days the whole was carried home, except a number of boards and timbers which they ſheltered as well as they could with thickets and bruſh-wood.

Harriet. But, papa, you have not told us any thing more about the goat.

Mr. Bill. Ah! very true; I had nearly forgot her. Well, the goat, as you may ſuppoſe, was brought home alſo, and put into a little park along with the tame lamas, and ſhe agreed very well with them.

What agreeable employments have Robinſon and Friday now before them! They ſcarce know where to begin. However, Robinſon, who had contracted a taſte for regularity, as well as the habit of it, quickly diſtinguiſhed the more neceſſary labours from thoſe which were leſs ſo, and did not heſitate in giving the preference to the former. The moſt important of all was the building of a ſhed, or ſtorehouſe, to ſhelter the goods, which could not be put into the cellar, more ſecurely than they were under

the

the tent. Here it was neceſſary to do the buſineſs of a houſe-carpenter, to which they had neither of them ſerved an apprentice-ſhip.

But what could be difficult to the induſtrious and perſevering Robinſon now that he was provided with all ſorts of tools? The moſt troubleſome pieces of work, and thoſe in which he had the leaſt experience, were no more than a play to him who had happily ſucceeded in ſo many others without aſſiſtance or proper tools. The cutting down and hewing out of the trees, the ſquaring of the beams and rafters, the joining and fitting of them, building of brick walls, making of a double roof, one of boards, and the other of the leaves of the cocoa-nut tree—were all executed with ſurpriſing diſpatch.

The little building, when finiſhed, was not much unlike one of our country cottages. Robinſon had taken care to bring away with him the ſhip's cabin windows; they ſerved to give light to the building,

without

without the inconveniency of holes that would let in the wind. The glaſs was an object of particular admiration to Friday; he had never ſeen any before, and he learnt, by experience, the commodious purpoſes that it ſerves.

When all was put under cover and in proper order, Robinſon thought of contriving for himſelf a convenient way of entering his fortreſs without weakening it. The moſt ſecure method for the purpoſe was by means of a common gate and a drawbridge. Being provided with every neceſſary for this undertaking, as nails, chains, hinges, locks, and iron work of all ſorts, he immediately began upon it. They firſt made the gate and the drawbridge; and, afterwards, they made an opening in the terrace and paliſade ſufficient for the width of the gate, which they next reared up in its place; then they laid down the bridge in ſuch a manner, that, when raiſed, it might lie againſt the gate, and cover it. Laſtly, they loaded the guns, and placed them upon the

terrace, in ſuch poſitions, that two of them ſhould defend the right flank, two the left, and two the front of their fortification: ſo that henceforward they might be quite at their eaſe as to the attacks of the ſavages, and had, beſides, the advantage of an eaſy and convenient way for going in and out.

When harveſt time was come, Robinſon made uſe of an old hanger, inſtead of a ſickle, to cut down his maize, and his wooden ſpade ſerved him for digging his potatoes. How eaſily was the work performed with ſuch inſtruments! It would have been a pleaſure to ſee them gather their harveſt, and ſtill more to aſſiſt them.

Henry. Oh! I wiſh I had been there! How I would have worked!

Edw. Nay, you have no occaſion to go ſo far as Robinſon Cruſoe's iſland for work. Papa will find you plenty, if you are fond of it. There is wood to be ſawed, to be ſplit, and to be carried; there are plats in the garden to be dug up; there is weeding and watering of the flowers; and, in ſhort, you will always find enough to do.

Mr.

Mr. Bill. Why do I ſet you to work at theſe different employments?

Rich. To accuſtom us never to be idle, to ſtrengthen our bodies, and preſerve us in good health.

Geo. For my part, I like it, and you ſhall always find me, papa, as diligent and induſtrious as Robinſon himſelf.

Mr. Bill. Well, we ſhall ſee that. We are very ſenſible that Robinſon was the better for it, and every one of us alſo experiences more and more the happy effects of an active way of life.

When the harveſt was gathered, Robinſon made two flails. Friday ſoon learned the uſe of them, and in one day they thraſhed all their maize. It filled two ſacks which might contain about ſix buſhels. They had a ſtock of biſcuits which would laſt ſome months; but as it muſt, of courſe, leſſen every day, Robinſon reſolved to ſupply its place occaſionally with bread, which he intended to make himſelf.

He had brought a hand-mill from the

ſhip, and wanted nothing but a ſieve to bolt the flour, and an oven for baking the bread. He found expedients for both. Some fine muſlin, of which there was a whole piece amongſt the goods ſaved from the ſhip, ſerved him to make the bottom of his ſieve; and the building of the oven gave him very little trouble; ſo that the whole was finiſhed before the rainy ſeaſon came on.

He made, by way of trial, two ſorts of bread, one of rye flour, and the other of maize. The rye bread was by far the better taſted of the two, which determined Robinſon to give it the preference. He propoſed to ſow the greateſt part of his land with rye, inſtead of maize, that he might always have a ſtock of grain ſufficient to ſupply them with bread; nor did this ſeem an undertaking beyond his power to accompliſh, aſſiſted as he was by his man Friday, ſince in this iſland they might have two crops in the courſe of the year.

There was one article that would have been

been exceedingly useful to them, but, unfortunately, they could find nothing of the sort amongst the goods in the ship; and that was an iron spade. It is true, Friday had made one of hard wood that might serve upon occasion, but still they found room to wish for a better; for it is certain, that an iron spade is, after all, more handy and effective for breaking up the ground, than a wooden one can possibly be. Robinson, therefore, who determined, for the future, to make agriculture his principal employment, as being, of all sorts of labour, the most agreeable and most useful, conceived the design of fixing up a forge to make spades himself, and, possibly, other instruments besides.

This design was not so extravagant as perhaps you may think it; for every thing necessary for a forge was to be found in his storehouse. There was a small anvil, several pair of pincers, a pretty large pair of bellows, and such a stock of iron, both wrought and in bars, as would probably be

ſufficient to keep him in work all his life-time. This plan was, therefore, immediately put in execution.

By means of a large boarded roof, which they put over the kitchen, it was ſo extended that they were able to fix up a forge in it, and to work at it even during the rainy ſeaſon. Part of this ſeaſon, therefore, they ſpent in working ſmiths work; and if they ſucceeded upon the whole, it was not without ſome diſappointments and unſucceſsful trials. When the ſpades were finiſhed, Robinſon had a mind to go a little farther, and to try his abilities at making a plough; and in this alſo, to his inexpreſſible joy, he perfectly ſucceeded.

This plough was, you may ſuppoſe, very different from ours. It conſiſted of a ſingle branch of a tree; one end of which, bending down, reſted on the ground, and was furniſhed with a ſock, and alſo a handle, by means of which the perſon who ploughed might guide it at pleaſure: at the other end they were to harneſs their oxen, or

horſes; but as they had none, they were obliged themſelves to ſupply their places. In a word, this plough was exactly like that in uſe amongſt the ancient Greeks, at their firſt undertaking the practice of agriculture. I can give you a ſketch of it here.

Henry. Really, it is a very curious plough.

Geo. Had it no wheels?

Mr. Bill. No: you ſee it had not. All inſtruments were at firſt as ſimple in their make as this plough. By degrees men made additions for greater convenience: ſo by altering and improving they encreaſed the utility and commodiouſneſs of the tools neceſſary for their different labours.

In the mean time, Robinſon had every reaſon to be proud of this invention; it was

wholly his own, for he had never ſeen a plan of it. By all that we can learn from hiſtory, many ages of the world elapſed before men arrived at the invention even of ſo ſimple a machine as this plough; and the inventors of it were looked upon by poſterity as men of ſuch exalted wiſdom, that, after their death, they were paid divine honours. Richard, you remember the name of him to whom the Egyptians attribute the invention of the plough.

Rich. Yes, it was Oſiris, whom, for that reaſon, they afterwards worſhipped as a god.

Mr. Bill. The Phœnicians aſcribed this uſeful invention to one Dagon, whom they alſo regarded as a being of ſuperior order, and called the Son of Heaven.

Edw. But could not Robinſon make the lamas draw the plough?

Mr. Bill. At firſt he doubted whether they were fit for this work, as they ſeemed rather beaſts of burthen than of draught; however, he determined to make a trial of them, and the ſucceſs of it exceeded his hopes.

hopes. They became gradually accustomed to the work, which, at length, they performed in every respect as perfectly as if Robinson and Friday had been brought up ploughmen, and the lamas had been trained like our beasts of draught.

To sow their field according to all the rules of art, there wanted but one instrument, which they could scarcely do without, and which they had not found in the ship.

Henry. I can guess what that was.

Mr. Bill. What do you think?

Henry. A harrow.

Mr. Bill. You are right. Without it tillage would be imperfect. By means of it we break the clods, throw the grains of corn into the furrows, and cover them, without which they would never spring up, but be devoured by the birds.

In the first place, Robinson made as many iron teeth as he thought would be necessary for the harrow. After some unsuccessful attempts, he, at length, succeeded in making the wooden frame in which these

iron teeth were to be fixed. Laſtly, he made as many holes in the ſtarne as it was to contain teeth, and when he had driven them in, and clinched them, the harrow was finiſhed.

The rainy ſeaſon being over, he ſowed two buſhels of rye, one of barley, and half a buſhel of peaſe; and, at the end of five months, he had the ſatisfaction to gather a crop of twelve times as much ſeed as he had ſown, namely, twenty-four buſhels of rye, twelve of barley, and ſix of peaſe; a ſtock more than ſufficient to laſt them ſix months. But, like a prudent œconomiſt, he was willing to have a ſuperabundance of every thing, becauſe there might come on a ſeaſon of ſcarcity; beſides, hail or other accidents might deſtroy his crops. He reſolved, therefore, to have a barn, which, being filled every half year, might always contain a ſufficient ſtock, in caſe a crop ſhould happen to fail.

With this intention, when the weather was ſettled fair, they unroofed the ſtore-houſe, in order to add another ſtory to it, which

which might ſerve as a granary. The building of this required more ſkill and labour than that of the ground floor; but their indefatigable perſeverance triumphed over all difficulties, and the work was ſoon happily completed.

During theſe tranſactions, the goat yeaned two young ones; ſo that the ſpecies might now be multiplied and kept up on the iſland. The ſpaniel ſerved as a guard by night, and Poll, the parrot, amuſed them at table, and pretty often alſo when they were at work. On the other hand, the lamas were become more valuable to them than ever; as, beſides affording milk, butter, and cheeſe, they aſſiſted in tilling the ground. In order, therefore, to be perfectly happy, Robinſon wanted nothing now but—gueſs.

Rich. To be with his father and mother.

Mr. Bill. And to have ſome more companions. Being only two upon the iſland, they muſt expect, ſooner or later, one of them

to die before the other, who would then remain a poor hermit, ſeparated from all the reſt of mankind. Yet Robinſon looked upon it as a blameable weakneſs to make one's life miſerable by the dread of evils that are poſſible, but ſtill concealed in futurity. "The ſame power," thought he, "who has hitherto provided for me in all things with ſuch unexampled bounty, will ſtill continue to exert it in my favour." Thus his life paſſed in tranquillity and content. He enjoyed inwardly peace of mind; and, without, every thing promiſed him the moſt perfect ſecurity. Happy ſtate! May God grant you all to enjoy the ſame!

"Amen," ſaid Mrs. Billingſley; and the company ſeparated.

TWENTY-

TWENTY-SEVENTH EVENING.

Mr. Bill. Well, my dear children, I have a great number of things to relate to you this evening.

The Children. Oh! ſo much the better! that is charming!

Mr. Bill. Provided only that I find myſelf able to do it.

The Children. Oh! dear papa, we ſhall take care not to interrupt you, ſo that you will certainly be able to get through it.

Mr. Bill. Well, I ſhall try; but prepare yourſelves for a freſh ſcene of horror, the event of which cannot be foreſeen.—By your motions I can nearly perceive what your conjectures are; the ſequel will ſhew whether they are juſt.

If I were to go on now enumerating to you all that Robinſon performed every day by the help of the tools with which he was provided,

provided, the recital would not amuſe you very much.

Rich. It might be agreeable enough; but we can eaſily imagine all that.

Mr. Bill. I ſhall only inform you, that they ſucceſſively attempted many different arts, and imitated moſt ſorts of tradeſmen — the baker, the blackſmith, the taylor, the ſhoemaker, the carpenter, the joiner, the wheelwright, the potter, the gardener, the butcher, the fiſherman, and ſeveral others; they imitated them, I ſay, with ſo much ſucceſs, that they were ſoon able to make up a hundred things, for which we indolent Europeans require as many different workmen. Their ſtrength encreaſed in proportion as they exerted it, and their minds, being in a ſtate of conſtant activity, and always in ſearch of ſome uſeful object, were improved every day more and more. May not this be regarded as a proof that we were created for the ſame activity, ſince health, virtue, and happineſs, are the neceſſary conſequences of it?

Six

Six months paſſed away in theſe agreeable employments, during all which time Friday durſt not revive the ſcheme of taking a voyage to his own country; but frequently, after finiſhing his taſk of work, he would go up the hill from whence he could ſee his native iſland, and there, buried in profound thoughtfulneſs, he lamented the misfortune of being ſeparated from his father, perhaps for ever. Robinſon, for his part, had avoided ſpeaking on the ſubject, becauſe it was not in his power to comply with his friend's wiſh while the neceſſary arrangements, which their new way of living required, were ſtill unfiniſhed.

At preſent the moſt indiſpenſable parts of the buſineſs were completed, and Robinſon was the firſt to propoſe the building of another boat, to go and ſeek Friday's father. At this propoſal, the young man's joy was as great as formerly on the ſame occaſion, and his thankfulneſs to Robinſon appeared in the ſame manner. The work was begun the very next day, and, with the help of good

good hatchets, was finished, as you may eaſily imagine, much better and much ſooner than the firſt time.

One morning, that Robinſon was engaged in the ordinary cares of his habitation, he ſent Friday to the ſea-ſide for ſome turtle, which was now become a rarity to them. After a ſhort abſence, he came back running at full ſpeed. Out of breath with running and with fright together, he could but juſt ſtammer out theſe words, "Here they are! here they are!"

Robinſon, in a fright, aſked him haſtily whom he meant. "Oh! maſter! maſter!" anſwered Friday, "one, two, three—ſix canoes!" In his flurry he could ſcarcely bring out the number ſix.

Robinſon ran haſtily up to the top of the hillock, and ſaw, not without ſhuddering, that Friday had counted right. He perceived ſix canoes full of ſavages, juſt ready to land. Coming down immediately, he bid Friday be of good courage, who ſtood trembling all the while; and he aſked him,

whether,

whether, if they ſhould come to an engagement with the enemy, he would ſtand by him faithfully, to the beſt of his power.

"Yes," anſwered he, "to the laſt drop of my blood;" for, having had time to recover himſelf, he felt his courage mount by degrees to its uſual pitch. "Well," ſaid Robinſon, "let us endeavour to prevent theſe monſters from executing their horrible deſigns. I will explain my intention to you as we go along; this is not the time to talk—we muſt act."

With theſe words, he wheeled down one of the carriage guns, took ſix muſkets, two brace of piſtols, and two hangers. Each of them put a brace of piſtols in his girdle, a hanger by his ſide, and three muſkets on his ſhoulder, and when they had taken a ſufficient quantity of powder and ball, they harneſſed themſelves to the gun, and with a firm countenance took the field under all that formidable and warlike apparatus.

Having paſſed the drawbridge, they halted. Friday went back into the fort to

raiſe

raiſe the bridge and ſhut the gate, and then, by means of the ladder of ropes, which always hung to the rock, he came out again, and joined his general. Robinſon thought this precaution neceſſary, that, in caſe their undertaking ſhould not ſucceed, the enemy might not be able to get poſſeſſion of his fortreſs.

Here Robinſon explained to Friday the plan that he had formed. "We will go round the hillock," ſaid he, "and walk through the thickeſt part of the wood, that we may not be perceived by the enemy; and, then, croſſing amongſt the thickets, which extend almoſt to the ſea-ſide, we ſhall approach the ſavages without being perceived by them. When within reach of them, we will fire the great gun, and the ball paſſing over their heads, no doubt, will terrify the barbarians, make them abandon their prey, and take to flight in their canoes."

Friday thought the plan not impracticable. "Thus," continued Robinſon, "we ſhall have the ſatisfaction of ſaving the unfortunate wretches whom they intend to devour,

devour, without ſhedding a drop of blood. But if, contrary to our expectations, they ſhould be encouraged by their numbers, and not take to flight, then, my dear Friday, we muſt ſhew that we are men, by bravely facing the danger to which we ſhall expoſe ourſelves from the moſt laudable intentions. He, from whom nothing is hid, ſees what induces us to endanger our lives; he will preſerve them if it be for our advantage: therefore, his will be done."

And ſo ſaying, he gave his hand to his companion, and they mutually promiſed to aſſiſt each other to the laſt drop of their blood.

Having arrived without noiſe almoſt at the laſt of the thickets, they there made a halt. Robinſon, in a low voice, deſired Friday to ſteal with all poſſible circumſpection behind a large tree which he ſhewed him, and then to come back and inform him whether he could diſcover the enemy from that ſpot. He brought word back

that

that they were eaſily to be ſeen ſitting round a large fire, and picking the bones of one priſoner whom they had already diſpatched; that, not far from them, he ſaw another lying on the ground, and tied hand and foot, who ſeemed to be a white man, and had the appearance of a beard; and that, in all probability, he was going ſoon to ſhare the ſame fate.

Robinſon was ſtartled at this report, eſpecially when he heard mention of a white man. Having a proſpect glaſs about him which he had found aboard the ſhip, he went to the tree himſelf, and from thence, by the help of this inſtrument, could diſcover that Friday's account was perfectly true. He ſaw about fifty ſavages ſitting round a fire, and could clearly diſtinguiſh the priſoner to be an European.

He could ſcarcely contain himſelf; his heart throbbed, his blood boiled. If he were to yield to the fury of his firſt paſſion, and fall upon theſe barbarians at once, it would be the way to ſhed much blood.

But,

But, as the blind inſtinct of paſſion ſhould never get the better of reaſon, he reſtrains his tranſports in order to avoid that unpleaſing neceſſity.

As there was a ſpot farther on equally ſheltered with thickets, he went behind a buſh pretty near the ſavages, and which had an opening in the middle of it large enough to ſee through, though not to be remarked at a diſtance; there he points his cannon in ſuch a manner that the ball would paſs over the heads of the ſavages high enough not to hurt them. Then he told Friday, in a low voice, to imitate exactly what he ſhould ſee him do.

He lays down two of his muſkets on the ground, and holds the third in his hand; Friday does the ſame: he then applies a lighted match to the touch-hole of the cannon, and fires it off.

At the noiſe of the report, the ſavages fell backwards on the graſs as if they had been all ſhot at once. Robinſon and Friday, on their ſide, attentive to what paſſed,

and

and uncertain what might be the event, prepared for engaging if that ſhould happen to be neceſſary. In leſs than a minute the ſavages riſe off the ground, recovering from their aſtoniſhment; the moſt fearful run to their canoes, but the boldeſt take up their arms.

They had been frightened merely by the noiſe of the cannon; unfortunately, they did not perceive the fire, nor hear the whiſtling of the ball. The fright was, therefore, not near ſo great as had been expected. After looking round on every ſide without diſcovering any thing that could terrify them again, they gathered courage, and thoſe who were running away preſently returned. They all ſet up a dreadful yell, and began their war dance, ſhaking their weapons with furious looks and geſtures.

Robinſon was undetermined what to do; but obſerving with ſurpriſe, that, when the dance was ended, the whole company of the ſavages not only took their places again, but ſent two of their number to ſeize the

un-

unfortunate European, he could not contain himſelf any longer. He looks at Friday, and ſays to him, in a low voice, "You take the right, I the left, and Heaven be our defence!" So ſaying, he preſents and fires; Friday does the ſame.

The man took much better aim than the maſter; for on the enemy's left there fell five, and on the right only three: of theſe eight three were killed, the reſt wounded. The conſternation with which thoſe who were not hurt took to flight, cannot be deſcribed. Some ran one way, ſome another, all of them yelling in the moſt hideous manner. Robinſon was going to ſally out from behind the buſhes, ſword in hand, in order to take advantage of their rout, and deliver the unfortunate European, who lay bound hand and foot; but he ſaw, with aſtoniſhment, a party of the runaways rally all of a ſudden, and ſtand upon their defence. He made haſte to take up a ſecond muſket, and Friday doing the ſame, they both fired at once.

At this diſcharge there fell only two of the enemy; but ſeveral of them being wounded, ſome more, ſome leſs dangerouſly, began to run away, howling dreadfully: preſently, three of them fell down, but ſtill with ſome remains of life.

Robinſon, when he laid down the gun that he had juſt fired, to take up the third, which was ſtill loaded, ſaid to Friday in a loud voice, "Now let us ſhew ourſelves:" at the ſame inſtant, they both ſtart from their concealment, and appear before the ſavages. Robinſon flies to the unfortunate priſoner, to ſhew him that relief was at hand; but as he approaches him, perceives that ſome of the ſavages, who before were running away, now that they diſcovered their enemy, ſtopped ſhort, and rallied to prepare for combat. He noticed this to Friday, who perfectly underſtood his maſter's meaning, advanced a little way, fired, and ſaw one of the Indians fall.

In the mean time, Robinſon, with his knife, cut the bulruſhes with which the priſoner's

priſoner's hands and feet were tied, and aſking him in Engliſh and Latin who he was, the man anſwered in Latin, *Chriſtianus, Hiſpanus*; that is, a Chriſtian and a Spaniard. His exceſſive weakneſs hindered him from ſaying any more. Fortunately, Robinſon had taken care to provide a bottle of wine, in caſe of being wounded. He gave the Spaniard a little, which revived him exceedingly, ſo that he ſoon began to recover his ſtrength. Robinſon then furniſhed him with a hanger and a piſtol, that he might help them to complete the defeat of the ſavages, and, mean time, Friday was ordered to bring all the muſkets, that they might be loaded afreſh.

The moment the Spaniard was armed with a hanger and a piſtol, he fell furiouſly upon his enemies, and diſpatched two of them in the twinkling of an eye. Friday, with the ſixth muſket, which had not been fired yet, advanced to ſupport him, while Robinſon was haſtening to load the other five. The two champions found ſome re-

ſiſtance at firſt, and were ſoon ſeparated; for the Spaniard came to cloſe engagement with a very ſtout Indian, and Friday, on the other hand, after firing his laſt muſket, purſued, ſword in hand, a whole party of runaways, ſome of whom fell beneath his arm, others jumped into the ſea to ſwim to their canoes, and the reſt fled and hid themſelves amongſt the buſhes.

But the Spaniard was now hard put to it. He had, it is true, at firſt, notwithſtanding his weakneſs, attacked the Indian with great impetuoſity, and given him two wounds in the head with his hanger; but this ſo enraged the ſavage, that with his heavy ſtone falchion he was near cutting the Spaniard down, who found it as much as he could do to parry off his blows; nor, indeed, could he at length prevent the furious Indian from ſeizing him by the middle, throwing him to the ground, and twiſting the hanger out of his hand; but in the very moment that he was going to cut off his head, Robinſon, perceiving the Spaniard's

danger,

danger, fired at the ſavage, and killed him on the ſpot.

Scarce was the Spaniard raiſed from the ground before he ſeized a loaded muſket, and went with Friday in purſuit of the ſavages who had fled into the coppice. As they were few in number, and for the moſt part wounded, Robinſon thought it beſt to remain on the field of battle, and obſerve the motions of thoſe who had eſcaped to their canoes. His two friends were not long before they joined him again, with the aſſurance that there were no more of the enemy in the wood.

They were both about to enter one of the canoes which the ſavages had left, and to purſue thoſe who were rowing off to ſea; but Robinſon ſtopped them. "My friends," ſaid he, "it is enough; we have, perhaps, ſhed more blood than we ought. Let us ſuffer thoſe to live who have no longer the intention or the power to hurt us."

"But if we ſuffer them to eſcape," re-

plied Friday, " they will, perhaps, return and attack us in greater numbers."

" Well," anſwered Robinſon, clapping him on the ſhoulder in a friendly manner, and pointing to the Spaniard, " is not our army alſo ſtronger now by one-third than it was in the morning? Thus reinforced, we ſhall be able at any time to cope with an army of theſe miſerable enemies, eſpecially if we ſtay for them behind our entrenchments."

Harriet. That was well done of Robinſon, to ſpare the remainder of the ſavages.

Mr. Bill. It was certainly acting with prudence and humanity. It would have been too cruel to kill, without neceſſity, a ſingle one of theſe unfortunate wretches, who had not the leaſt ſuſpicion that there was any harm in what they were doing, and who, on the contrary, embraced, as the cleareſt truth, that deplorable error, which taught them that to kill and eat a great number of their enemies was a very meritorious action.

Edw. Yet, I think, they ought to have known that it was not right to do ſo.

Mr.

Mr. Bill. My dear friend, how could they have known it?

Edw. Hey-day! Why any little child knows that it is not right to kill a man and then eat him.

Mr. Bill. But how does the little child know this? Is it not by being early so inſtructed?

Edw. Yes, certainly.

Mr. Bill. And if he had never been inſtructed on the ſubject; if his father, his mother, and all thoſe whom he ought to love and reſpect, had always told him that it is a very laudable action to kill one's enemy, and eat his body?

Edw. Nay, why—to be ſure—then—

Mr. Bill. Why, then, a child would never ſuſpect the contrary. He would rather partake, as ſoon as he was of age, in the killing and the feaſting. This was the caſe with thoſe poor ſavages. Let us thank God that we were not born amongſt them, but had civilized parents, who early inſtructed us

in the difference between good and evil, juſtice and injuſtice.

Our hero, the friend of human kind, ſhed tears of compaſſion when he traverſed the field of battle to aſſiſt thoſe who were ſtill alive. It was all over with the greateſt part of them, and the reſt expired in his arms while he poured wine upon their wounds, and endeavoured to recover them. The ſavages loſt one and twenty men, and the victorious army, far from having loſt any, had only one wounded; the Spaniard, when he was thrown down, had received a ſevere bruiſe.

Harriet. But how came this Spaniard amongſt the ſavages, papa?

Mr. Bill. That is more than Robinſon himſelf has yet had time to be informed of; therefore, let us reſtrain our curioſity until to-morrow.

The Children. Oh! then, we muſt ſtop here.

TWENTY-EIGHTH EVENING.

HARRIET. Well, papa, now for the Spaniard; what brought him amongſt the ſavages?

Mr. Bill. Have a little patience, and you ſhall hear. Some incidents happened in the mean time which I muſt firſt relate to you.

Rich. Indeed! well, that rouſes my curioſity.

Mr. Bill. Robinſon, having a mind to examine one of the two canoes which the ſavages had left behind them, went towards it, and, to his great aſtoniſhment, he found in it another unfortunate creature, tied hand and foot as the Spaniard had been, and looking more dead than alive.

Robinſon made haſte to cut his cords, and would have lifted him up, but he was not able either to ſtand or ſpeak. He lay groaning,

ing, no doubt, under the apprehenſion that they were going to put him to death.

As he was an Indian, not an European, Robinſon called Friday, who was then buſy in burying the dead bodies, to ſpeak to him in his native tongue. Scarce had he caſt eyes on the priſoner before Robinſon and the Spaniard ſaw a ſcene take place which drew from them tears of benevolent ſympathy. Friday, all of a ſudden, like a man beſide himſelf, flies to the priſoner, embraces him, locks him in his arms, cries, laughs, jumps, dances, roars, claſps his hands, ſtrikes himſelf on the face and breaſt, cries out again, and, in ſhort, acts like one that is delirious. It was ſome time before Robinſon, who queſtioned and urged him repeatedly, could draw from him this ſhort anſwer, "It is my father!"

It would be difficult to deſcribe all the marks of filial love and affection which this excellent young man ſhewed upon this occaſion. Twenty times he jumped out of the canoe upon land, and from the land into

the

the canoe again. Some times, ſitting down, he opened his jacket, and preſſed his father's head to his boſom to warm it; at others, he rubbed the joints of his arms and legs, which were numbed by having been ſo tightly bound; and now he embraced him again, and covered him with kiſſes. Robinſon, who had ſtill ſome wine in his bottle, gave it to him to waſh his father's limbs, which were grievouſly ſwelled. He then ſtepped aſide to let Friday indulge his joy with more freedom.

Returning after ſome time, he aſked him if he had made his father take any nouriſhment. "The glutton," anſwered he, pointing to himſelf, "had before eaten up all." Robinſon gave him his breakfaſt, which he had not touched, and Friday gave it to his father. Scarce had he received it when his ſon ſtarted out of the canoe in a hurry, and went off ſo quick, that before Robinſon had time to ſay Where are you going, Friday was already out of ſight.

He ſoon appeared again, but did not come back

back with quite ſuch expedition. When he was pretty near, they could ſee that he had a pitcher of water in one hand, and ſome victuals in the other. He gave the water to his father, and the victuals to his maſter in return for the breakfaſt which he had received from him. The cold water afforded viſible refreſhment to the old man, who was ready to faint with thirſt.

Robinſon then turned towards the Spaniard, who, exhauſted with fatigue, was lying ſtretched upon the graſs. He made Friday help him alſo to ſome refreſhment. The Spaniard, by his looks, endeavoured to expreſs his gratitude. He ſtrove to riſe, but was not able, being prevented by the pain that he felt in the joints of his hands and feet, which were ſwelled from having been bound ſo very tightly. Friday was ordered to ſit down beſide him, to bathe his arms and legs with wine, and to take the ſame care of him as he had of his father.

It was truly moving to behold this affectionate ſon, who, while he attended the

Spaniard,

Spaniard, turned his head every moment towards his father to ſee how he was. At one time, when the old man, in order to repoſe himſelf, lay down at full length, Friday, quite uneaſy, flew to him without ſpeaking a word; but when he ſaw that his father had only lain down to be more at his eaſe, he returned in a moment, and continued his attention to the Spaniard. Robinſon now had a mind to try whether he could not, with Friday's aſſiſtance, convey the Spaniard to the canoe; but Friday, who was young and ſtrong, took that taſk upon himſelf alone, and carried him with eaſe upon his ſhoulders. When they had placed in the other canoe, not only the cannon and the muſkets, but alſo all the arms of the conquered Indians, Friday quickly entered the firſt, and, though the wind began to freſhen, and was rather againſt him, yet he made ſuch ſpeed, by dint of rowing, that Robinſon, who ran on foot along the ſea-ſide, could by no means equal the ſwiftneſs of the canoe. He was

ſcarce

ſcarce half way home when he ſaw Friday returning, who paſſed by him in his way to fetch the other canoe; and before Robinſon could get up to the firſt, where the Spaniard and Friday's father were, Friday was there with the ſecond: with ſuch remarkable ſwiftneſs did he row.

They were now oppoſite their dwelling-place. Robinſon haſtened thither for ſome planks and poles, which he put together in the form of a litter or bier, to convey the diſabled men to his habitation with more eaſe. He and Friday carried them up, one after the other. What a treaſure was here for Robinſon, who longed for nothing ſo much as the happineſs of enlarging his company! His heart beat with joy when he reflected, that, for the future, he need not apprehend being forced to lead a life of ſolitude again. His ſatisfaction was complete. As the two invalids ſeemed to have occaſion for nothing ſo much as reſt, Robinſon preſently warmed ſome wine to bathe their bruiſed limbs, while Friday made

them

them up a bed, on which, when ready, they delayed not to repoſe themſelves.

The two hoſts then prepared a good ſupper. Friday was ordered to go to the park, and bring home a young lama; Robinſon undertook all the reſt. He could not help ſmiling frequently at the thought that he ſhould now reſemble a king ſtill more than ever. The whole iſland was under his dominion; all his ſubjects were indebted to him for their lives, acknowledged his will as their ſupreme law, and were bound to expoſe themſelves in his cauſe to the greateſt dangers if neceſſary. One circumſtance was remarkable, that he counted in his dominions as many different ſects of religion as he had ſubjects. Friday had adopted his maſter's religion, which was the Proteſtant; the Spaniard was a Roman Catholic, and Friday's father was an idolater.

"What is to be done in this matter?" ſaid Robinſon to himſelf: "have I not a right to oblige them all to embrace the belief

lief which I think beſt?" He was ſome time reflecting on this ſubject, becauſe it was one that had never engaged his thoughts before.

What anſwer think ye, my dear children, ſhould ſound reaſon have given to this queſtion? Ought he to force his ſubjects to receive his particular religion, or ought he not?

The Children. He ſhould not conſtrain them in any reſpect.

Mr. Bill. Why not?

Rich. Becauſe a man's belief, or way of thinking, is independent of all the world, provided he behaves himſelf inoffenſively in other reſpects.

Mr. Bill. But if a maſter ſees clearly that his ſubject is in an error, may he not lawfully force him to renounce it?

Rich. What would be the conſequence? When a man is *forced* to believe, he becomes neither the honeſter nor the wiſer for it.

Mr. Bill. That is true, for violence can never

never convince him that he was in an error before; and of what use can profeſſing be, when it does not proceed from conviction. Beſides, how is a man certain that he whom he would force to embrace his belief, is really in an error? May he not be miſtaken himſelf?

Henry. Certainly, that might be the caſe.

Mr. Bill. How ſo?

Henry. Becauſe every man is liable to be deceived.

Mr. Bill. Conſequently, no man has a right to advance his opinions as inconteſtable truths.

In fine, my dear children, it belongs to God alone to be the infallible judge of our belief; he alone can decide on the truth or falſehood of our opinions: none but he can know perfectly whether our ſearch after the truth has been earneſt and ſincere, or ſlight and negligent; nor is there any but he who can judge how far our errors are to be imputed to us.

Robinſon ſaw this matter nearly in the

ſame light. "Far from me," ſaid he, "be the indiſcreet zeal which endeavours to force men into its belief! Far from me be the blind frenzy of perſecuting and torturing fellow-creatures, merely becauſe they have the misfortune to be deceived, or the virtue to refuſe profeſſing publicly that of which they are not convinced inwardly. In my iſland, at leaſt, ſuch injuſtice ſhall never find a place. I will do every thing in my power to enlighten my new ſubjects; but if I am not happy enough to convince them of their errors, or of the truth of my religion, then I ſhall leave them to believe what they *can* believe, and to give an account of their faith, not to me, who am their equal, and liable to error, but to God alone, the unerring judge of all."

He, therefore, reſolved, that all, without diſtinction, ſhould enjoy the free exerciſe of their religion, if it ſhould ſo happen, that, notwithſtanding previous inſtruction, they could not agree amongſt themſelves upon one ſingle form of religious worſhip.

Friday

Friday being now returned, they forthwith proceeded to get ready the ſupper. "Let us celebrate this day," ſaid Robinſon, "as a double feſtival: on the one hand, we have reſcued two fellow-creatures from the voracity of thoſe monſters in human ſhape; on the other hand, you have found your father."

Friday had no occaſion to be exhorted to rejoice; indeed, his heart had never experienced ſuch joy before, and he ſhewed it continually, by ſinging, jumping, and laughing, all the while that he performed what he had to do with equal diligence and exactneſs. Chearfulneſs and gaiety, far from being a fault, is ever an amiable quality, when, inſtead of making us abſent and neglectful, it chears us in our labours.

The two gueſts now awoke. Although they ſtill felt ſome pain, yet they found themſelves conſiderably relieved, and able, with the aſſiſtance of Robinſon and Friday, to riſe and ſit at table. The old Indian ſeemed as much ſtruck and aſtoniſhed at every

every thing that he beheld as his ſon had formerly been on his firſt ſeeing the effects of European induſtry.

Friday acted as interpreter in the converſation that his maſter had with the old man and the Spaniard.

Geo. Did Friday underſtand Spaniſh?

Mr. Bill. No; but the Spaniard, who had been ſix months amongſt the ſavages, could ſpeak the language of Friday's country tolerably well, ſo that he could underſtand him. The following is the ſubſtance of his account:

"Our ſhip was bound to the Coaſt of Africa for ſlaves. We were returning from thence, having exchanged all our goods for gold duſt, elephants teeth, and negroes. We had taken a hundred ſlaves on board, and were carrying them to Barbadoes to ſell them: twenty of them died on account of our ſtowing them too cloſe one upon another. A violent gale of wind, which laſted ſeveral days, drove us out of our courſe, and carried us towards the Coaſt of Braſil. Our ſhip

ſprung

ſprung a leak, ſo that we durſt not truſt ourſelves out to ſea again, but coaſted along the main land. Suddenly we were attacked by another gale from the Weſt, that carried us off the coaſt, and, in the night, we ſtruck upon ſome rocks not far from an iſland. We fired ſeveral guns, and made other ſignals of diſtreſs, being reſolved not to quit the ſhip until the laſt extremity. We ſet the blacks free, that they might aſſiſt us in pumping, as the ſhip leaked in more places than one; but the moment they ſaw themſelves at liberty, they, with one accord, ſeized our boats, being determined, by means of them, to ſave their lives, and eſcape from their maſters.

What could we do? It was impoſſible for us to have recourſe to force; we were but fifteen againſt four ſcore, and, beſides, the greateſt part of them were armed. On the other hand, how could we think of remaining on board a wreck without a ſingle boat? This would have been expoſing ourſelves to certain death. We remonſtrated with them

them, and even entreated them; we endeavoured, by our ſupplications, to prevail on thoſe, who had lately been our ſlaves, either to remain with us or take us with them. Here I cannot help ſpeaking in the higheſt terms of the humanity and generoſity of theſe blacks. Though they had received the moſt rigorous treatment from us, yet they were moved with compaſſion, and ſuffered us to get into the boats, on condition that we gave up our arms. We jumped in, therefore, diſarmed, and the boats were ſo overloaded that we expected to ſink every moment.

However, we did every thing in our power to reach the iſland, but ſuddenly the wind changed, and carried us out to ſea in ſpite of the laborious exertions of the rowers. Our deſtruction now appeared no longer a matter of doubt: nevertheleſs, the boats, though overloaded and toſt about by the moſt violent waves, ſtill had the good fortune to live; and, contrary to all expectation, without loſing a ſingle man, we were

carried

carried to an island perfectly unknown to us, where the inhabitants, simple and humane, received us with the most hospitable benevolence.

We have lived with them ever since, in the best manner we could, but still very indifferently. These poor savages have nothing themselves to subsist on but fishing, and a few fruits which the island produces spontaneously. They shared their little stock of provisions with us chearfully, and shewed us their manner of fishing, that we might ourselves provide a part of our subsistence. The negroes were not so ill off as we, both because they were accustomed nearly to the same way of living, and also because they had recovered their freedom.

Some days ago, this island was invaded by a nation of neighbouring Indians. Every one took up arms, and we should have thought ourselves wanting in the most essential duty of society if we had not assisted people from whom we had received

ceived ſuch friendly entertainment. I fought by the ſide of this brave old man, who, like an enraged lion, threw himſelf into the hotteſt of the combat. I ſaw him ſurrounded, and would have reſcued him, but had the misfortune to be made priſoner along with him.

In this dreadful captivity we paſſed two days and two nights, bound hand and foot, without receiving any nouriſhment. They now and then threw us pieces of ſtinking fiſh, ſuch as the ſea left dead on the beach; and theſe they caſt to us with as much diſdain as if we had been the vileſt of animals.

This morning, at break of day, we were dragged to the canoes in order to be conveyed to the place where theſe barbarians were accuſtomed to devour their victims. Providence brought you to our aſſiſtance; generous men! you delivered us; ſo that we have received more at your hands than ever we ſhall be able to repay you."

Here the Spaniard was ſilent; being penetrated

netrated with gratitude, he ſhed abundance of tears. Robinſon, for his part, was delighted to find that his former conjectures were amply confirmed, and Friday joined him in admiring the wiſdom and goodneſs of Providence.

The Spaniard, on being aſked who owned the ſhip's cargo, anſwered, that the veſſel had been fitted out by two merchants of Cadiz; that one of them had given an order for the purchaſe of ſlaves, but the other, deteſting this traffic, deſired to have gold-duſt in return for his goods.

Upon this, Robinſon took the Spaniard by the hand, led him to his cellar, then to the ſtorehouſe, and ſhewed him the moſt valuable effects of the wreck ſafely ſtowed in both places. Friday took upon him to recite the particulars concerning them, and the Spaniard was ſo ſtruck with aſtoniſhment that he could ſcarce utter a word.

Robinſon enquired alſo in reſpect to the owner of the diamonds and the officer's dreſs. He was told that they were both part

of the effects of an Engliſh officer, who, having reſided many years in the Eaſt Indies, was returning to England, but, falling ſick on his way home, he deſired to be ſet aſhore on the coaſt of Africa, where he died, and his effects were put on board the Spaniſh ſhip to be conveyed to Barbadoes, whence they were afterwards to be ſent to England.

Robinſon ſhewed him alſo the papers that he had taken out of the ſhip; by means of which the Spaniard learnt the name of the merchant to whom the gold-duſt belonged, and alſo that of the officer's widow to whom the diamonds and cloaths ſhould be reſtored. From that moment Robinſon looked upon the gold-duſt, the diamonds, and the papers, as a ſacred depoſit entruſted to his care.

Night approaching, all parties found themſelves ſo exhauſted by the fatigues and dangers of the day, that each one had occaſion to retire earlier than uſual to ſeek refreſhment in ſleep. They did, therefore, what we ſhall alſo do as ſoon as

we

we have returned thanks to God for having this day permitted us to enjoy uninterrupted happineſs and tranquillity.

TWENTY-NINTH EVENING.

MR. BILL. The next morning Robinſon aſſembled all the ſtrength of his empire, in order to perform an office which required this junction, and which could not be put off. There was reaſon to fear that the ſtench of the dead bodies of the Indians ſlain the day before might have a dangerous effect upon the air: they provided themſelves, therefore, each with a hatchet, and repaired to this ſcene of horror.

Henry. With hatchets?

Mr. Bill. Yes; not to dig graves: if that had been the deſign, they would have provided themſelves with ſhovels, ſpades,

and pickaxes; but they intended to cut down wood, and make a pile to burn all the bodies to aſhes.

Rich. That was the cuſtom of the Romans.

Mr. Bill. And many other nations beſides. Robinſon did not chuſe to imitate the imprudence of his countrymen, who, at that time, buried their dead in the midſt of towns, and even within their churches, where conſequently the living muſt breathe an air infected by the diſorders of the dead.

Harriet. Hey! why they do ſo ſtill, papa.

Mr. Bill. Yes, unfortunately, they do ſo. Let this example make you ſenſible how difficult it is for men to aboliſh ancient cuſtoms, though univerſally acknowledged to be pernicious: wherefore, I adviſe you, by early application, to acquire wiſdom and virtue. If once we adopt error and vice, if unfortunately we become familiar to them, how difficult is it to get rid of them, even when we are ſenſible of their danger!

Every

Every body knows in this age that the ſtench of dead bodies is poiſon to the living; and yet nobody ſcruples to depoſit them in burying-grounds in the midſt of cities, or even in the vaults of churches, where they are not ſo much as covered with earth. Another century and more will elapſe before people will think ſeriouſly of aboliſhing ſo pernicious a cuſtom.

Henry. I wiſh I were a perſon in authority! I ſhould ſettle that matter.

Mr. Bill. This, my dear, is one of the principal motives that ſhould induce you to acquire all the good qualities and all the merit poſſible: then, diſtinguiſhed by your countrymen, they will honour you with their confidence, and confer on you dignities which will authorize you to reform dangerous abuſes, and to introduce wholeſome cuſtoms. Heaven ſeems to intend each of you to be one day of the number of thoſe who are entruſted with the power of promoting your country's happineſs. Every thing that is neceſſary for your attaining ſo exalted a

truſt the goodneſs of Providence has beſtowed upon you. You are born of enlightened and virtuous parents, who enjoy the confidence and love of their country; you are endowed with the happieſt qualifications of body and mind, which have never yet been ſpoiled; and, I may venture to affirm, that you are receiving an education which few men have the happineſs to receive. It would be a diſgrace to any of you to fruſtrate the good intentions of Providence, which has done every thing to enable you to become men of a ſuperior claſs, and capable of the greateſt things. Your behaviour affords not the ſmalleſt doubt in that reſpect. If, as I hope, you ſhould fulfil your honourable deſtiny, if you ſhould arrive one day or other at the rank of thoſe powerful men whoſe actions affect the happineſs of ſo many thouſands, make uſe of the authority entruſted to you to leſſen the evils and promote the good of your fellow-creatures; ſcatter round you joy, proſperity, and happineſs. Remember then, alſo, what

has

has now given riſe to this paternal exhortation, and, if poſſible, prevail upon your countrymen to bury the dead in places where the ſtench of their bodies may not injure the health of the living.

Edw. Have patience! Let me try what I can do. When I go to town, I will ſpeak of it to my grandpapa and my uncles; they will take care to manage it.

Mr. Bill. Do, my dear.——Robinſon and his companions, having burned the dead bodies, returned to the dwelling-place. In the mean time, Friday informed his father of the horror wherewith civilized nations look upon the eating of human fleſh; which appeared very ſtrange to the old man. But Friday, having repeated to him all that he had himſelf learned from his maſter on the ſubject, gave him at length a diſguſt to the barbarous cuſtom. As the ſon was called Friday, Robinſon gave the father the name of *Thurſday*, and thus we ſhall call him for the future.

Robinſon ſummoned them all to council,

where Friday ſtill ſerved as interpreter, and his maſter, as chief, opened the aſſembly with the following ſhort ſpeech:

"My dear friends, all who are preſent ſee themſelves now in poſſeſſion of whatever can contribute to render their lives peaceable and commodious: nevertheleſs, I feel, that, in the enjoyment of theſe good things, my heart will never find ſatisfaction while I know that there are perſons who have a greater right to them than I have, and yet languiſh in the want of them. I ſpeak of your countrymen, my dear friend, my dear European; I ſpeak of the Spaniards who are now amongſt the ſavages. I wiſh that each of you would communicate to me his advice and opinion concerning the propereſt means for bringing thoſe unfortunate people hither, and making them ſhare the ſame lot with us."

After he had finiſhed, each gave his opinion in his turn. The Spaniard firſt offered to go for them, all alone, in one of the canoes that they had taken from the Indians.

Thurſ-

Thurſday declared that he was ready to undertake the ſame expedition. Friday was of opinion, that his father, on account of his age, ſhould remain on the iſland, and that he himſelf, who was fitter for the enterprize, ſhould accompany the Spaniard. A generous conteſt aroſe between the father and ſon, which of them ſhould expoſe his life; and Robinſon was obliged to interpoſe, and terminate it by a deciſion to which they ſubmitted without murmuring. He pronounced, that Thurſday and the Spaniard ſhould make the projected attempt, and that Friday ſhould remain with him.

Charlotte. But why did not he ſend Friday, papa, rather than the poor old man?

Mr. Bill. His affectionate friendſhip for Friday would not permit him to expoſe him to a danger which he himſelf did not ſhare with him. Beſides, the Father knew the ſea, and could navigate it, better than the ſon. As to the Spaniard, there was a neceſſity that he ſhould go, becauſe,

if he did not, his countrymen would, perhaps, not accept Robinſon's invitation.

It was, therefore, agreed, that they ſhould ſet ſail together as ſoon as they all four had finiſhed ploughing and ſowing a field at leaſt ten times larger than that which they cultivated before, becauſe the encreaſe of the colony would neceſſarily occaſion a greater conſumption of food.

Each of them, therefore, turned ploughman for ſome weeks, and as they all laboured with a good will, the work was both very well and very ſpeedily performed. At the end of a fortnight they were ready to prepare for the voyage.

Before their departure, the Spaniard gave a proof not only of his honeſty and gratitude towards Robinſon, but alſo of his prudence and circumſpection. He repreſented, that the other Spaniards were, like himſelf, no more than common ſailors, and, conſequently, people without education; that he did not know them ſufficiently to anſwer for

their

their behaviour; and that, therefore, he was of opinion, that Robinſon, as maſter of the iſland, ſhould draw out an agreement, expreſſing the conditions upon which they ſhould be received, and that none ſhould be admitted without previouſly accepting his terms.

Robinſon, delighted with this proof of his new ſubject's fidelity, immediately purſued his advice. The agreement which he drew up in conſequence of it, was worded as follows:

"All perſons who are deſirous of reſiding in Robinſon Cruſoe's iſland, and of enjoying there the conveniencies of life which they are invited to ſhare, muſt conſent,

"In the firſt place, to conform in every thing to the will of the lawful maſter of the iſland, and to ſubmit chearfully to whatſoever laws and regulations the ſaid maſter ſhall judge neceſſary for the good of the territory.

"Secondly,

"Secondly, to be active, ſober, and virtuous; for no idle, drunken, vicious perſon will be tolerated in this iſland.

"Thirdly, to abſtain from all quarrels, and, in caſe of receiving offence, by no means to become judges in their own cauſe, but to carry their complaints before the maſter of the iſland, or the perſon to whom he ſhall delegate the office of judge.

"Fourthly, to join, without murmuring, in all the labours which the good of the community ſhall require, and, in caſe of neceſſity, to aſſiſt the maſter of the iſland at the hazard of their lives.

"Fifthly, ſhould any perſon preſume to oppoſe any one of theſe juſt laws, all the other members of the community ſhall be bound to unite againſt him, either to oblige him to return to his duty, or to baniſh him for ever from the iſland.

"Every one is adviſed to conſider theſe articles maturely, and not to ſign them (which would be equal to the obligation of an oath), unleſs

unleſs he is firmly reſolved to abide by the conditions of them.

Signed ROBINSON CRUSOE."

It was ſettled that the Spaniard ſhould tranſlate this agreement into his native language, and take pen and ink with him, that his countrymen might ſign it before they embarked.

They next choſe the beſt of the canoes, and prepared for their departure.

Geo. But was there room in one canoe for all the Spaniards?

Mr. Bill. No: they only wanted this canoe to ſail to the other iſland: for their return they could uſe the boats belonging to the Spaniſh ſhip, which, as the Spaniard declared, were ſtill in very good condition.

When their proviſions were laid in, the wind being favourable, the two deputies ſet ſail, after taking a friendly leave of Robinſon and Friday. The latter was ſo affected at the ſeparation, that even the day before his ſorrow had cauſed him to ſhed tears for

hours.

hours together, and took from him all desire of nourishment. At the moment of his father's departure he became inconsolable. Every now and then he embraced him, and bedewed him with his tears. It was not without some difficulty that the old man could escape from him to enter the canoe, and, even after they had pushed off from shore, Friday threw himself into the sea, and swam to the side of the boat, to shake hands with his father once more, and give him his last farewell, which was almost stifled with sobs. On his return ashore he sat down upon a rising ground, where he remained sighing and shedding tears with his eyes fixed upon the canoe, which scudded before the wind until he had entirely lost sight of it.

Robinson, to amuse him, spent the rest of the day with him in shooting game, and traversing the hills. They had not gone very far, when the spaniel, that accompanied them, stopped at the foot of a rock all overgrown with bushes, and fell a barking.

They

They went up to him, and obſerved a hole in the rock, which a man could not enter without creeping.

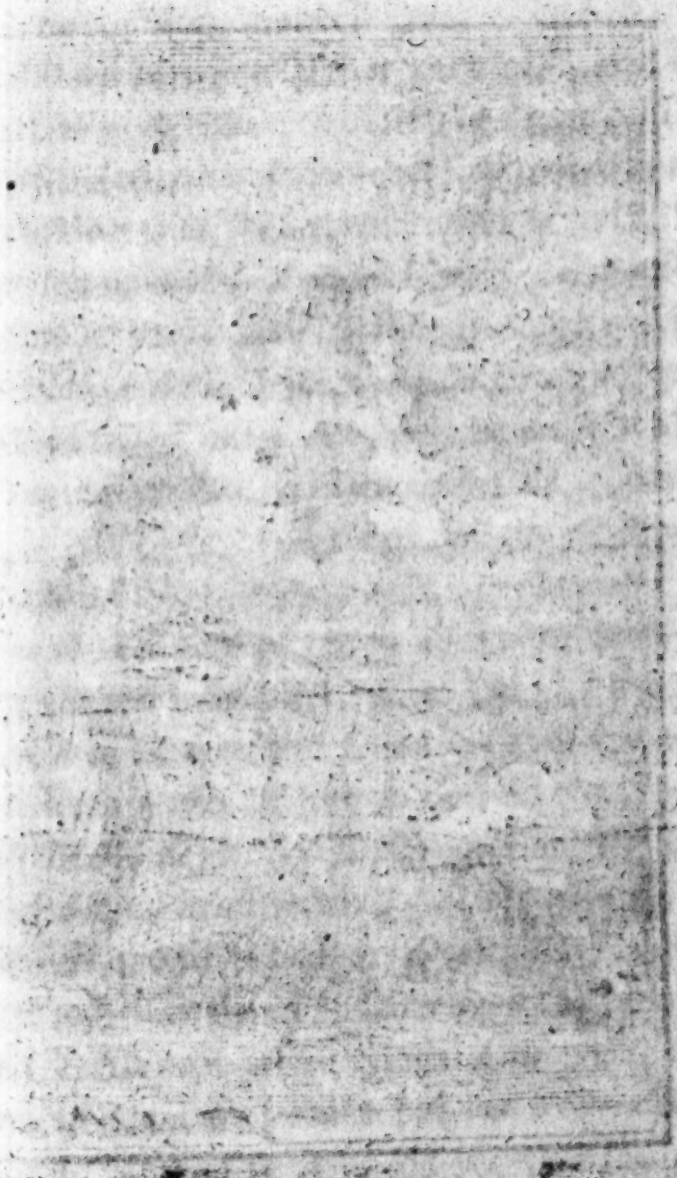
Robinſon, who loved minutely to examine every thing that drew his attention, deſired Friday to try if he could get into the hole, who, in making the trial, had ſcarce put his head withinſide, before he drew it out again in a hurry, uttered a dreadful roar, and ran away with the greateſt terror and precipitation, never once liſtening to Robinſon's voice, who called him back repeatedly. At length, overtaking him, Robinſon aſked, with much ſurpriſe, why he had run away. "Ah!" replied he, ſcarce able to ſpeak, "ah! my dear maſter, let us run, let us ſave ourſelves with the utmoſt ſpeed. In that cave is a moſt terrible monſter; his eyes are like burning fire, and his throat ſo wide that he could ſwallow us both at once."

"A monſtrous throat indeed!" ſaid Robinſon: "I ſhould be curious to ſee it."

"Ah!"

"Ah!" cried Friday, falling on his knees, "for Heaven's ſake do no ſuch thing. The monſter would infallibly devour you, and then poor Friday would have no maſter." "Has it devoured you?" ſaid Robinſon, ſmiling. Here Friday heſitated to anſwer. His maſter, therefore, deſired him to haſten to the dwelling-place, and fetch a lantern. In the mean time, he went back to the rock, and ſtood ſentinel before the hole, with his muſket in his hand.

Robinſon ſaid to himſelf, "What could Friday have ſeen to terrify him ſo? Was it a wild beaſt? a lion? a tiger? a panther? or any ſuch animal? In that caſe it would certainly be raſh of me to enter the hole. But if there were ſuch animals in this iſland, I ſhould have ſeen ſome of them long before now. Beſides, if it had been one, Friday could not have eſcaped its claws. No, no; it is no ſuch thing. His fearfulneſs has deceived him, and made him fancy he ſaw what really was not there to be ſeen. I will know



J. Barwick del.t et Sc.t

know what it is, were it only to cure this good young man of his childiſh aptneſs to be frightened.

Friday now arrives with the lantern lighted. He endeavoured once more, with tears in his eyes, to diſſuade his maſter from expoſing himſelf to a danger which he ſaid was ſo evident, and in which he would inevitably meet his ruin. Robinſon was a ſtranger to fear; when he had once determined upon a ſtep from mature reflection, he was afterwards immoveable: exhorting Friday, therefore, to take courage, he advanced boldly towards the cavern, with a lantern in one hand, and a loaded piſtol in the other.

His head was ſcarce withinſide of the hole, when, by the feeble light of the lantern, he perceived an object which really made him ſhudder; nevertheleſs, he did not run away. Holding his lantern farther in, the better to diſcover this unknown monſter, he found it to be a lama that was dying of old-age. Looking round, and perceiving no other

other animal but this harmleſs lama, he crept entirely into the cavern, and bid Friday follow him.

The poor fellow was all of a tremble, yet he could not think of abandoning his maſter; he, therefore, made a noble effort to overcome his fear, and, in ſhort, had the courage to creep into the hole after him, where he ſaw with aſtoniſhment how much his fright had deceived him with regard to the great fiery eyes and huge throat of the animal.

As he entered, Robinſon ſaid to him, ſmiling, "Well, Friday, you ſee what fear can make us believe. Now, where are the great blazing eyes? Where is that prodigious throat that you ſaw?"

Frid. And yet I really thought I ſaw them; nay, I could have ſworn it.

Rob. That you thought ſo I have not the leaſt doubt; but you ought to have known how deceitful fear is, and that its deluſions make us ſeem to ſee a thouſand things which never exiſted. Believe me, Friday,

it

it is the foundation of all ſtories concerning ghoſts, and I know not what idle fancies of the ſame ſort. The firſt tellers of theſe abſurd tales were fearful old women, or cowardly men of the ſame ſtamp. They imagined, like you, that they ſaw ſomething which they did not ſee; and, like you too, juſt now, they would have ſworn that they ſaw what they did not ſee. Be a man, Friday; for the future always look twice; and baniſh from your breaſt this fearfulneſs, which would be ſcarce excuſable in a girl. Friday promiſed to do his beſt.

While they were talking, the old lama expired. Robinſon and Friday dragged it out of the hole, in order to bury it. They next more attentively examined the ſpot where they were, and found it to be a very ſpacious and agreeable cave, which they might in future turn to advantageous uſes. It appeared as if hewn out by deſign: it was cool without the leaſt dampneſs; and the walls, which ſeemed to be

be of cryſtal, reflected the light from all ſides with as much ſplendour as if it had been a drawing-room brilliantly lighted up. Robinſon reſolved to convert it into an agreeable retreat, where he might enjoy a refreſhing coolneſs during the hotter part of the day, and alſo lodge any of his proviſions that were liable to be ſpoiled by the heat. Luckily it was no more than a ſhort mile from the dwelling-place, whither Friday preſently repaired, and brought back tools, with which they both fell to work to enlarge the entrance. They intended to make a door, and this taſk employed them agreeably during the abſence of their two deputies.

THIRTIETH EVENING.

EDWARD. Every time now that papa ſits down to continue the ſtory I feel a dread over me.

Mr. Bill. What are you afraid of, my dear?

Edw. That it will be the laſt evening.

Geo. If I were papa, I would make it laſt ſo long—that it ſhould not finiſh at all.

Mr. Bill. My dear children, all our pleaſures here below are bounded: this muſt alſo have an end, and you will do well to prepare yourſelves before-hand for the concluſion of Robinſon's adventures. However, even now a ſtorm is riſing, as you will ſoon ſee; I cannot anſwer for the conſequences of it; be on your guard.

A week was now elapſed without any appearance of the deputies. They began to be uneaſy about them. Friday ran

twenty times a day to the top of the hillock or the ſea-ſide, and wearied his eyes to no purpoſe in looking out for them. One day when Robinſon was buſy at the dwelling-place, Friday came towards him full ſpeed, ſinging, jumping, and bawling like a madman, while he was ſtill as far off as he could ſee his maſter,—"They are coming! —they are coming!"

At theſe agreeable tidings Robinſon took his proſpect glaſs, and haſtened to the top of the hillock. With his naked eye he could perceive at a diſtance a boat making ſail towards his iſlands; but when he put the proſpect glaſs to his eye, the joy that was in his countenance diſappeared, and he ſaid to Friday, ſhaking his head, "I doubt whether thoſe are the people that we wiſh for." Friday at theſe words turned pale.

Robinſon looked at the object a ſecond time, and his doubt was now changed into uneaſineſs. At laſt, being convinced that they were not his friends who were in the boat, he communicated his alarms to Friday,

twenty times a day to the top of the hillock or the sea-side, and wearied his eyes to no purpose in looking out for them. One day when Robinson was busy at the dwelling-place, Friday came towards him full speed, singing, jumping, and bawling like a madman, while he was still as far off as he could see his master,—"They are coming! —they are coming!"

At these agreeable tidings Robinson took his prospect glass, and hastened to the top of the hillock. With his naked eye he could perceive at a distance a boat making full towards his island; but when he put the prospect glass to his eye, the joy that was in his countenance disappeared, and he said to Friday, shaking his head, "I doubt whether those are the people that we wish for." Friday at these words turned pale.

Robinson looked at the object a second time, and his doubt was now changed into fastness. At last, being convinced that they were not his friends who were in the [illegible] he communicated his alarms

day, who was already much disquieted. "My friend," said he, "they are neither the Spaniards nor your father; it is an English boat, with English sailors in it." Friday began to tremble from head to foot. "Follow me," said Robinson, taking the road to an eminence from whence they could better discover the Northern coast. Scarce had they reached it and looked out to sea, when they were struck motionless, and, as it were, petrified with astonishment. They perceived, at the distance of about a couple of leagues, a large English ship lying at anchor.

Surprise, fear, and joy, seized Robinson's breast by turns: joy, at the sight of a ship which might perhaps carry him to his own country; surprise and fear, because he could not conceive what had brought an English ship upon these coasts. It could not be a storm; the weather had been quite calm for some weeks. Nor could the ship's course have occasioned her to come that way. What reason could the captain have for

sailing towards parts of the world where the English have neither settlements nor trade? He apprehended, therefore, that they might be pirates.

Henry. What are they?

Mr. Bill. There are men to be found, who have been so ill instructed in their earlier years as not even to know that theft is a crime. These wretches make no scruple of taking away other people's property, either by fraud or violence. If they do this on land, they are called *thieves* or *robbers*; if on sea, they are called *pirates*, *freebooters*, and the like.

Edw. But these were Englishmen.

Mr. Bill. So they appeared to be; it is true; but it was possible that they might be outlaws and pirates, who, having seized upon an English ship, had dressed themselves in English clothing. Besides, England has at all times produced as many thieves and robbers as other countries.

During the first years of his solitary sojourning in this island, deprived of all manner

of help and society, Robinson would have thought himself happy, had he fallen into the hands of pirates, been carried away a slave, and thus restored once more to the society of men; but now that his situation was much more agreeable, he trembled at the idea of being carried away by such marauders. He imparted his apprehensions to Friday, and they retired in order to observe, at a distance, those who were coming in the boat, and endeavour to discover their design.

Robinson and Friday posted themselves on a rising ground that was covered with trees and underwood, from whence, without being perceived, they could have an eye upon whatever passed. They saw the boat, with eleven men in it, come to land at a part of the shore that was smooth and sandy, and about a mile from the place where they were. The strangers landed; eight of them were armed, and the other three tied neck and heels. These they unbound as soon as they were upon the beach. By

the countenance and actions of one of them in particular, they judged that he was ſoliciting the compaſſion of thoſe who were armed: he fell at their feet in the poſture of a ſuppliant. The other two now and then lifted up their hands to Heaven, as if to implore ſuccour and deliverance.

Robinſon, ſhocked and grieved at this ſight, knew not what to reſolve on: meantime, Friday approached him with an air of triumph, and whiſpered, "Well, I find, maſter, your countrymen eat their priſoners too." "Pſhaw!" ſaid Robinſon, a little out of humour, "they will do no ſuch thing:" and he continued to obſerve them with his proſpect glaſs.

It was not without ſhuddering that he ſaw ſome of thoſe who were armed lift up their hangers ſeveral times over the head of him who was on his knees before them. At laſt, he obſerved that the priſoners were left alone, while the others diſperſed themſelves in the woods.

All

All three ſat down with ſorrowful and deſponding hearts on the ſpot where the ſeat left them.

This ſight reminded Robinſon of his own deplorable ſituation the day he was caſt aſhore upon the iſland, and it inſpired him with the reſolution of riſking every thing for the preſervation of theſe unfortunate people, if they ſhould prove deſerving of it. Having thus determined, he ſent Friday home with orders to bring as many guns, piſtols, hangers, and as much ammunition, as he could carry.

Harriet. What is ammunition?

Mr. Bill. Powder and ball. Robinſon thought proper to ſtay upon the ſpot and obſerve what paſſed. Friday having performed his errand, and all the fire-arms being charged, they obſerved with ſatisfaction that the ſailors, being ſcattered about, were lain down in the ſhade, here and there, to ſleep, during the violent heat of the noon-day. Robinſon, having waited a quarter of an hour, advanced confidently towards the three priſoners, who were ſtill ſitting in the

same spot with their backs to him. When Robinson, approaching them, called out suddenly, "Who are you?" they were all three thunder-struck.

They started up, and were going to run away; but Robinson bade them fear nothing, for he was come to assist them. "You are, then, sent from Heaven," said one of them, taking off his hat respectfully, and surveying him with the greatest astonishment. "All assistance comes from Heaven," replied Robinson; "but, not to lose time, tell me in what consists your distress, and how I can relieve you." "I am captain of that ship," said one of them; then pointing to his companions, "this," continued he, "was my mate, and that gentleman a passenger. My sailors mutinied and seized the ship; their intention at first was to kill me, and these my two companions, for finding fault with their behaviour: however, they have at length yielded to our entreaties, and spared our lives; but this boon is almost as bad as death itself. They expose

us

us on this desert island, where, being in want of every thing, we are sure to perish miserably."

"On two conditions," said Robinson, "I will risk my blood and my life to relieve you from this extremity."

"Generous man! let us but know what they are," said the captain.

"They are these; While you remain upon this island, you shall conform in every thing to my will; and, if I succeed in recovering for you the possession of your ship, you shall give me and my companion a free passage to England." "We, the ship, and all that it contains, shall be wholly at your disposal," replied the captain.

"Very well," said Robinson. "I put a musket and a sword into each of your hands, on condition that you shall not use them until I think proper. Your assassins are now asleep and dispersed one from the other: come; let us try and master them without spilling any blood."

They set forward. Friday carried with

him the cords which had been taken off the three priſoners. The firſt ſailor that they came up to lay with his face to the ground, and ſlept ſo ſoundly that they ſeized him by the hands and feet, and crammed a handkerchief into his mouth, before he was well awake. They tied his hands behind his back, and commanded him to remain on the ſpot without ſtirring an inch, or making the leaſt noiſe, on pain of being put to death that moment. They made him turn his head towards the ſea, that he might not obſerve what was paſſing amongſt his comrades.

The ſecond met with the ſame treatment; he was tied hand and foot, turned, and threatened in the ſame manner. Fortune, or, more properly ſpeaking, Providence appeared on this occaſion the protector of innocence and avenger of villainy. Six of them were now tied, but the two laſt awoke, ſtarted up, and took their arms. "Wretches!" cried Robinſon to them, "ſee where your companions lie; be aſſured we

are

are superior to you in force; lay down your arms this very instant, the least delay may cost you your lives!

They threw down their arms, and, in their turn, fell upon their knees to entreat their captain's pardon. Their hands being tied in the same manner as those of the rest, they were all conducted to the cavern which had been lately discovered, there to be confined. They were then informed that the guard who was to have the care of them would shoot the first man through the head who should attempt to come out at the door. It was also thought expedient to take their knives away.

After this, Robinson and Friday, with their new friends, went down to the boat: they drew it upon the beach, and bored holes in its bottom to render it for the present unfit for use.

Henry. Why did they do so?

Mr. Bill. They foresaw, that, when the first boat did not return, the people aboard would send a second. They chose, therefore,

fore, to put it out of their power to take back the first.

What they expected happened accordingly. About 3 o'clock in the afternoon, the ship fired a gun for the sailors who were on shore to return. This signal not being obeyed, though thrice repeated, they saw another boat put off from the ship towards the island. Robinson, with his companions, retired to a rising ground, in order from thence to observe what measures circumstances might require them to pursue.

The boat having come to land, the men jumped out and ran to the first, but were not a little surprised to see it drawn up a good way on the beach, and with holes in its bottom. They looked all round, and called their companions by their names, but nobody answered. They were ten in number, all well armed.

Robinson, being informed by the captain, that, amongst those whom they had made prisoners, there were three who from fear alone had joined in the mutiny, sent Friday

day and the mate for them immediately. On their appearance, the captain, to whom Robinson had communicated his design, after reproaching them a little for their behaviour, asked them, whether, if he should pardon them, they would remain faithful to him for the future. "To the last moment of our lives," they said, trembling, and falling on their knees. "Before this mutiny," continued the captain, "I always took you for honest men, and am willing to believe that you were forced to take a part in it. I hope, however, you will make amends for the past by being steady and faithful in future." The three sailors, heartily repenting of their folly, shed tears of joy on being forgiven. The captain gave them back their arms, and desired them to yield a punctual obedience to their common chief.

In the mean time, the people of the second boat were continually calling out, and now and then firing their guns, with the expectation that their scattered comrades would

would hear and join them. At laſt, finding all their reſearches uſeleſs, and the day now drawing to a cloſe, they began to fear for themſelves; they put off, therefore, intending to lie at anchor about a hundred yards from the ſhore. The captain and Robinſon were apprehenſive leſt they ſhould go back to the ſhip, and the crew ſhould take the reſolution of letting fall and going off with the veſſel, and not wait longer to ſearch for their ſtrayed companions. This apprehenſion filled Robinſon and the reſt with much anxiety.

Luckily a thought ſtruck him, from which they promiſed themſelves great ſucceſs. He ordered Friday and one of the ſailors to go behind the thickets, about a mile from the boat, and anſwer the men whenever they called; then, as ſoon as they perceived that the others heard them, they were to go farther in by degrees amongſt the underwood, in order to draw the ſailors after them to as great a diſtance as poſſible

from

from ſhore; and, having done this, Friday and the ſailor were to return as quick as they could by another way.

This ſtratagem ſucceeded completely. No ſooner did the ſailors in the boat hear a voice anſwer them, than they haſtened to land again, and, taking their muſkets, ran towards that quarter from whence they heard the voice. Two were left to guard the boat.

Friday and his companion performed their part admirably. They drew the ſailors after them amongſt the thickets about three miles from the ſhore, and then they haſtened back with all ſpeed to join their commanders. In the mean time, Robinſon had unfolded to the captain his whole plan for maſtering theſe people without bloodſhed.

Night now came on, and it grew by degrees darker and darker. Robinſon and his companions advanced ſilently towards the boat, till within about twenty yards of it, unperceived by the two ſailors who guarded

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it; then they all shewed themselves at once, and, with much noise and clattering of their arms, threatened the two men with instant death if they dared to stir a step. They begged for quarter, upon which Robinson's party went up to them, and tied their hands. This done, they made haste to draw up the boat at a considerable distance from the water, led away their two prisoners, and concealed themselves behind the bushes, to wait for the return of the other sailors. They came back straggling one after another, and all exceedingly fatigued with their unsuccessful expedition. Their astonishment and vexation at not finding the boat is impossible to be expressed. As soon as there were five of them together, one of those who had been pardoned was sent to them to ask whether they chose to lay down their arms and surrender that moment without murmuring; adding, that, in case of their refusal, the governor of the island had posted a detachment of fifty men not thirty yards off, whose fire could

not

not possibly miss them though it was dark; that the governor's people had already taken their boats, and made all the rest of their companions prisoners; so that there was no choice left them but either to surrender or die.

At the same time Robinson and his company made a clattering with their arms, to confirm the sailor's account of their number. "Can we hope for pardon?" said one of them. The captain, who was unseen, answered, "Thomas Smith, you know my voice; lay down your arms instantly, and you shall all be spared your lives, except Atkins." He, it seems, was the principal ringleader of the mutiny.

They all immediately threw down their arms. Atkins begged for mercy, entreated the captain's compassion, and represented to him that he was not more guilty than the rest. The captain answered him, that all he could do was to intercede for him with the governor, and he must wait the effect of that intercession. Then Friday and

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the three ſailors were ſent to tie their hands; and the other three mutineers returning at the ſame time from their ramble among the thickets, they were informed of what had paſſed, and, dropping all thoughts of reſiſtance, ſubmitted to be tied with the reſt.

Upon this, Robinſon, as one of the governor's officers, came forward to the priſoners. The captain, who accompanied him, choſe out thoſe whom he thought capable of a ſincere repentance: theſe were ſent to be lodged near the entrance of the dwelling-place; the others were put into the cavern. Amongſt thoſe who had been put there before, there were two whom the captain thought to be equally diſpoſed to return faithfully to their duty, and theſe were ordered to be brought to him.

To-morrow evening, my dear children, you ſhall have the ſequel of this adventure.

THIRTY-

THIRTY-FIRST EVENING.

MR. BILL. My dear children, we now draw near the conclusion; Robinſon's lot will ſoon be decided; a few hours more and our friend will know whether he is ſentenced to remain in his iſland without hopes of quitting it, or whether he ſhall be able to gratify his moſt earneſt wiſh of again ſeeing his parents.

This depends on the captain's ſucceſs. Will he, or will he not, with the aſſiſtance of the ſailors who have returned to their duty, be able to make himſelf maſter of the ſhip? If he can, all our friend's anxiety will be at an end; if not, things will remain as they are, and he muſt not think of leaving the iſland.

Thoſe whoſe lives had been promiſed them, were lodged, as before mentioned, near the entrance of the dwelling-place; they were ten in number. Robinſon informed them, as from the governor, that, their offence being

mutiny,

mutiny, they ſhould not receive a full pardon, but on the condition of aſſiſting their lawful commander to recover poſſeſſion of his ſhip. They all proteſted that they would perform this condition with the greateſt chearfulneſs and fidelity. Robinſon added, that, if they acquitted themſelves properly of this juſt and reaſonable duty, they would not only exempt themſelves from all manner of puniſhment, but alſo ſave the lives of their comrades in priſon, who, if the ſhip was not recovered that very night, were all to be hanged the next morning at break of day.

This was alſo told to the priſoners: they were then left together for a while, that, in this interview, the criminals threatened with ſpeedy death might confirm the others in their fidelity, which was the only poſſible means that could ſave their lives.

In the mean time, the ſhip's carpenter was ordered immediately to repair the boat that had been ſcuttled; and, as ſoon as this was done, they launched them both. It was agreed, that the captain ſhould command

mand one, and the mate the other, the crew being equally divided between them. Every man was provided with arms and ammunition. Robinson took the captain by the hand, and wished him good success. The two boats now set sail.

Edw. I wonder that Robinson did not go with them.

Mr. Bill. It was not for want of courage, but prudence did not permit him to go upon this expedition. The prisoners in his absence might escape, and make themselves masters of his dwelling-place. This, being his only retreat in case of danger, and containing all his resources, was of too much consequence to him that he should imprudently run the risk of losing it. The captain himself saw the propriety of this consideration, and was of opinion that Robinson and Friday should stay and guard their little fortress.

Robinson, whose destiny was now going to be decided, felt an anxiety and agitation of mind that did not suffer him to rest.

Sometimes he sat down in the cave, some-

ſometimes he walked about upon the terrace, and ſometimes he went up the ladder of ropes to the top of the hillock, to take advantage of the ſilence of the night, and liſten whether any thing was to be heard from that quarter where the ſhip lay. Though he had ſcarce taken any nouriſhment the whole day, he could not prevail upon himſelf to do it now. His anxiety was continually encreaſing, becauſe he expected the ſignal that had been agreed upon between them: three guns were to be the token of the captain's ſucceſs, and it was already midnight. He at length reflected, that he was wrong to fluctuate between hope and fear, ſo *tremblingly alive* to both; and he ſeaſonably recollected a maxim with which he had, not long ago, endeavoured to fortify his man Friday. "In a doubtful caſe," ſaid he, "always expect the worſt. If this worſt does not happen, ſo much the better for you; if it does, you are prepared for it, and have already deſtroyed half its power to hurt."

Conſequently, Robinſon conſidered as indubitable

dubitable the ill ſucceſs of the expedition. He muſtered up all his fortitude and reſignation to Providence, to enable him to ſupport this misfortune. He now gave up all hope—when, ſuddenly, the deep and diſtant ſound of a gun was heard. As if he had been rouſed out of his ſleep, he liſtens——a ſecond report——then a third! There is no longer any room for doubt: the captain has recovered the ſhip, and will very ſpeedily ſet ſail for Europe.

Intoxicated with joy, he flies, he ſlides down the ladder, throws his hands round Friday's neck, who lay aſleep upon the graſſy ſlope of the terrace; he preſſes him to his boſom, and bedews him with his tears, unable to utter a ſingle word. "What is the matter, my dear maſter?" ſaid Friday, opening his eyes, and terrified at all this hurry and ſudden overflow of affection. "Ah! Friday!" was all the anſwer that Robinſon, in the fulneſs of his joy, could return.

"Heaven have compaſſion on my poor

maſter's head!" ſaid Friday to himſelf, imagining him to have loſt his ſenſes. "You muſt go to bed, my dear maſter;" and at the ſame time he was taking him by the arm to lead him to the cave. Robinſon, in a tone of voice which expreſſed his tranſport, cried, "Me! me to bed! Friday, at the very moment when Heaven is crowning the only wiſh that my heart has cheriſhed ſo long! Did you not hear the three guns? Know you not that they are happily maſters of the ſhip?"

Friday, on being informed of this fortunate event, rejoiced, it is true, but more on his maſter's account than his own. The thoughts of ſoon quitting his native climate for ever, damped the ſatisfaction which he would otherwiſe have enjoyed in going with Robinſon and his father to a country from whence ſo many wonderful things had already been preſented to his view, and where he expected to ſee others ſtill more marvellous.

Robinſon was never ſo affected with the tranſports

tranſports of joy before. Sometimes he went up to the top of the hillock, threw himſelf on his face, lifted up his eyes towards the ſtarry vault, and returned God thanks for having at length procured him the means of departing from this deſert iſland; preſently he would go down again, ſhake his dear Friday by the hand, talk of nothing but Plymouth and Exeter, and begin to pack up the goods. In this agitation he paſſed the night without once thinking of repoſe.

At the firſt peep of dawn his eyes were turned towards that quarter where the ſhip lay at anchor. He waited with impatience for the moment when broad day-light ſhould give him a full view of the inſtrument of his deliverance. The moment comes — Heaven! is it poſſible?—Dreadful idea!— He ſees, without the ſmalleſt room for doubt—that the ſhip is no longer there. He ſhrieks, and falls down in a ſwoon.

Friday ran to him, but was a long time before he could comprehend what was the

matter with his master. At length, Robinson, stretching his trembling hand towards the sea, "Look there!" said he, with a feeble and almost inarticulate voice. Friday no sooner turned his head that way than he discovered the cause of his master's grief.

I see, my dear children, you know not which sentiment to indulge. You are divided between joy and compassion. You hope that this incident will prolong the story; but our friend's melancholy situation moderates and restrains the liveliness of your satisfaction. You all maintain a profound silence; I will take advantage of it, and go on.

Robinson shews us here, by his example, how careful even the best men should be not to suffer their passions to get the better of them. If he had not at first indulged an immoderate joy, he would not afterwards have fallen into an excessive degree of sorrow, which entirely darkened his reason; he would have been sensible that he ought to

support

ſupport the ſhock with reſignation, though it deſtroyed his deareſt hopes; he would have reflected that Providence has means to reſcue us from diſtreſs, even when we think it impoſſible. This reflection would have contributed to reſtore him to tranquillity. Once more, my dear children, you ſee how much remains to be amended even in perſons the moſt forward in the path of virtue.

While Robinſon was deſponding, and Friday endeavouring to comfort him, they ſuddenly heard a noiſe at the back of the hillock as of ſeveral people walking. They riſe in a hurry, and looking on that ſide from whence the noiſe came, they were agreeably ſurpriſed to behold the captain coming up the hillock, accompanied by ſome of his people. Robinſon ſprung forward to take him by the hand, and happening to turn himſelf that way he perceived the ſhip at anchor in a creek on the Weſtern ſide of the iſland. Judge whether his grief was baniſhed in a moment. This ſight informed him at once that the captain had

changed his ſtation before the break of day, and moored the ſhip in that ſafe and commodious harbour.

Robinſon was ſo overjoyed that he could not quit the captain, who on his ſide was no leſs delighted. They thanked and congratulated each other a thouſand times. The captain related the manner of his becoming maſter of the ſhip without killing or wounding a ſingle perſon. The night was ſo dark that the mutineers never ſaw him, and ſo made not the leaſt difficulty in receiving thoſe on board who accompanied him. The moſt refractory were going, it is true, to ſtand upon their defence, but their reſiſtance would have been vain; they would immediately have been overpowered and laid in irons. When he had finiſhed his recital, he indulged his feelings of gratitude to his deliverer. "It is you," ſaid he, with tears in his eyes, "it is you, generous man! who by your compaſſion and prudence have ſaved me and reſtored my ſhip. It is now yours; you ſhall diſpoſe both of that

and

and me at your pleasure." He then ordered the men to lay on the table some refreshments that he had brought from the ship, and the whole company, with hearts full of joy, sat down to an excellent breakfast.

In the mean time, Robinson related his strange adventures, which more than once excited the captain's highest admiration. The latter entreated Robinson to tell him what he should do for him. "Besides what I stipulated yesterday," answered he, "in return for the assistance that I afforded you, I have three things more to desire of you. In the first place, I request you to wait the return of the Spaniards and my man Friday's father; 2dly, to receive aboard your ship, not only me and my people, but also all the Spaniards, whom you will land in their own country, sailing to Cadiz for that purpose: lastly, to pardon the principal mutineers, and to punish them no otherwise than by letting them remain here on my island, as I am persuaded that it will be the best way to reform them."

The captain, having assured him that these articles should be punctually performed, sent for the prisoners, picked out the most guilty, and told them their sentence, which they heard with a degree of satisfaction, very well knowing that by law they were liable to be put to death. Robinson, ever full of humanity, gave them instructions concerning the manner of procuring themselves subsistence, and promised to leave them what was his best treasure in the island, namely his tools, his furniture, and his cattle. At the same time he recommended to them, over and over, to put their trust in Heaven, to agree together, and to be industrious, assuring them that the practice of these virtues would not a little contribute towards rendering their confinement in this island agreeable.

He was still speaking, when Friday, out of breath, brought the pleasing news that his father was coming with the Spaniards, and that they were that moment landing. All the company prepared to go and meet them.

Friday

Friday flew to the ſea-ſide, and embraced his father again and again, before the reſt came up.

Robinſon ſaw with ſurpriſe, that, amongſt thoſe who came in the boats, there were two women. He queſtioned Thurſday concerning them, who told him that they were natives whom the two Spaniards had married. As ſoon as theſe two Spaniards learned that Robinſon was going away, and intended to leave ſome ſailors behind him upon the iſland, they requeſted permiſſion to remain there alſo with their wives, alledging, that, after the accounts which they had heard of this iſland, they could not deſire a better eſtabliſhment.

Robinſon, charmed at their requeſt, moſt readily conſented to it. He was well pleaſed that two men ſhould remain upon his iſland, of whom all their comrades gave the moſt excellent character, as it was poſſible that they might bring back the mutineers, with whom they were left, to a regular and peaceable life. With this view

be reſolved to give the Spaniards a degree of authority over them.

Thoſe who were to be left on the iſland were ſix Engliſhmen, and two Spaniards with their wives. Robinſon called the whole together, and declared his will to them in the following words:

"I hope none of you will diſpute my right to do as I pleaſe with the property of this iſland and all that belongs to it. I wiſh equal happineſs to all of you who remain here after me. To ſecure it, there muſt be a certain order and ſubordination amongſt you, which it belongs only to me to preſcribe. I declare, therefore, that I appoint the two Spaniards as ſubſtitutes in my place, and that they ſhall for the future be the lawful maſters of the iſland. You ſhall all pay them the ſtricteſt obedience; they alone ſhall have poſſeſſion of the little fort and live there; they alone ſhall have under their care all the arms, ammunition, and tools, but which they will lend you, whenever you have occaſion for them, provided

you

you be quiet and peaceable. In all dangers you ſhall unite for the common defence. Your labours both in the garden and the field ſhall be performed in common, and every crop be equally divided amongſt you all. Perhaps one day or other I may have an opportunity of hearing from you. Perhaps I may even reſolve to come and finiſh my days in this iſland, ſuch an affection do I feel for it even at this moment. Then woe be to him who ſhall have infringed my regulations! He ſhall be ſhewed no compaſſion, but ſet adrift in a ſlight boat, to take his chance upon the open ſea, let the weather be ever ſo unfavourable."

They all agreed to theſe regulations, and promiſed the moſt perfect obedience.

Robinſon then took an inventory of the few goods that he intended to carry away with him, and which were to be immediately put on board the ſhip. They were, 1ſt, the dreſs of ſkins that he had made for himſelf, together with the umbrella and the maſk: 2dly, the ſpear, the bow and arrows, and

the ſtone hatchet, which were alſo his own workmanſhip: 3dly, Poll, the ſpaniel, and two lamas: 4thly, ſeveral utenſils and pieces of furniture, which he had made while he was alone: 5thly, the gold-duſt and diamonds: and, laſtly, the lump of gold which was his own property.

All theſe articles being carried aboard, and the wind favourable, their departure was fixed for the next day. Robinſon and Friday prepared a dinner, by way of entertainment before their departure, for the captain and thoſe who were to compoſe the future colony on the iſland. They ſerved up the beſt of every thing that was amongſt their proviſions, and the victuals were ſo well prepared, that the captain could not ſufficiently admire Robinſon's ſkill in entertaining his company. The captain, to imitate the generoſity of his hoſt, and to contribute in ſome meaſure to the welfare of the new inhabitants of the iſland, ordered a quantity of proviſions to be brought from the ſhip, together with gunpowder, iron,

and

and working tools, all which he bestowed as a present on the colony.

Towards evening, Robinson made his excuses, and begged permission to be alone for an hour, alledging that there remained some important business which he wished to settle before his departure. Every one withdrawing, he went to the top of the hillock; there he revolved in his mind the series of events that had happened during his abode upon the island, and his heart, full of the liveliest filial gratitude, opened itself in thanksgiving to his Supreme Benefactor. How shall I express his pious acknowledgements? But hearts like his will find in their own feelings the expression of those sentiments which I want words to interpret.

The time of their departure being arrived, Robinson affectionately exhorted the colony to be unanimous, industrious, and, above all, religious; and, bearing in his breast a regard for the welfare of the whole, he recommends them as his brothers to that divine protection which he had always won-

wonderfully experienced. He looks round once more with inward ſatisfaction: again he thanks Heaven both for preſerving him hitherto, and for delivering him at preſent by a miracle of goodneſs and wiſdom: for the laſt time, he bids farewell to the inhabitants whom he leaves in the iſland, but in a voice ſcarcely to be heard. At length he goes aboard, accompanied by Thurſday and Friday.

Some of the Children. Now the ſtory is ended.

Rich. Pray, have patience; who knows whether ſome obſtacle may not yet happen to hinder his departure?

Mr. Bill. The wind was freſh, and blew ſo favourably that the iſland ſeemed to withdraw from them very faſt. As long as it was in ſight, Robinſon, ſtanding upon the deck in mournful ſilence, kept his eyes fixed upon the ſpot, which, from his having lived upon it for 12 years, and experienced and ſurmounted many diſtreſſes there, was become almoſt as dear to him as his own native

country.

country. At length, having loſt ſight of the iſland, and the top of its higheſt hill, he retired into the cabin with Thurſday and Friday, in order to relieve the oppreſſion of his thoughts in the amuſement of friendly converſation.

They had a very fine voyage, and in twenty-four days caſt anchor in the harbour of Cadiz, where they landed all their Spaniſh paſſengers. Robinſon went into the town to enquire for the merchant to whom the barrel of gold-duſt belonged which he had ſaved from the wreck. He was fortunate enough to find him, and to learn that the honeſt merchant, by recovering this gold, would be extricated from the greateſt difficulties. The loſs of his ſhip had been followed by the moſt diſagreeable conſequences: it had thrown his affairs into ſuch confuſion that he *failed*.

Henry. Failed? how?

Mr. Bill. When a man owes more than he can pay, he gives up whatever property he has remaining to be divided proportionably

ably amongſt his creditors, who thus loſe each of them more or leſs; and in this caſe a man is ſaid to become bankrupt, or to fail.

The barrel of gold-duſt was more than ſufficient to pay off the merchant's debts. Penetrated with gratitude, he wiſhed to beſtow the remainder upon his benefactor. Robinſon, far from accepting it, declared that he was already too well rewarded in the ſatisfaction of having prevented the ruin of an honeſt merchant.

From Cadiz they ſet ſail for England. In this part of the voyage a melancholy event happened. Thurſday fell ſuddenly ill; all the aſſiſtance that could be given him was of no ſervice. You may imagine what Friday ſuffered, and what was his exceſs of grief on the death of a father whom he loved beyond expreſſion. The two lamas, alſo, being no longer able to endure the voyage and the ſea air, died ſoon after.

The ſhip arrived without any accident at Portſmouth.

Portſmouth. Robinſon hoped to find there the widow to whom he was to reſtore the diamonds. He found her, indeed, according to the direction that he had received for her, but in very low circumſtances. Having received neither remittances nor even tidings from India for two years, ſhe and her children were reduced to very great diſtreſs; in ſhort, they were almoſt in rags, and poverty was painted in the countenance of each perſon of the family. Robinſon, therefore, once more experienced the ſatisfaction, ſo delightful to every man of benevolence, of being an inſtrument in the hands of Providence to dry up the tears of the unfortunate, and put an end to their diſtreſſes. He gave her the diamonds; and as a plant that is almoſt parched in ſtalk and branches recovers its ſtrength and verdure after a kindly and refreſhing ſhower, he ſaw this family, through returning plenty, and the ſatisfaction naturally accompanying it, lift up their heads once more, make a proper figure in ſociety, and enjoy a happineſs

ariſing

ariſing from independence which they had long ſince deſpaired of attaining.

As Robinſon found here a ſmall veſſel going to Plymouth immediately, he took leave of his captain, not chuſing to go by land, and haſtened with Friday aboard the Plymouth veſſel, which ſet ſail that ſame evening.

This ſhort paſſage was ſoon performed. They were already in ſight of the Eddiſtone light-houſe, when all of a ſudden a violent ſtorm aroſe, which carried the veſſel to the Weſtward. All that ſkill and activity could do was put in practice to tack and keep out to ſea, but to no purpoſe: a furious guſt of wind rendered all their exertions uſeleſs; it forced the ſhip upon a ſand-bank with ſuch violence that ſhe bulged.

The water came pouring in ſo faſt that they had not a thought of ſaving her: in fact, the people had ſcarce time to take to their boats, which was the only reſource they had to preſerve their lives.

They

They fortunately reached ſhore at a place not far from Plymouth. Robinſon and the ſhip's crew immediately ſteered their courſe thither; he, like a poor traveller, now twice ſhipwrecked, and ſaving out of all his effects nothing but his faithful ſpaniel, who ſwam after the boat, and Poll, his parrot, which flew upon his ſhoulder the moment ſhe ſaw him leave the ſhip. He ſtopped in Plymouth that night, and the next day learned, that, amongſt the goods ſaved from the wreck, were his umbrella and ſuit of cloaths made of ſkins. Theſe, being of no uſe to the finder, were reſtored to him by a fiſherman for a trifling gratuity. As to his great wedge of gold, it was loſt irrecoverably.

Rich. Poor Robinſon!

Mr. Bill. He is now exactly as rich as when he formerly ſet ſail from Plymouth. Perhaps Providence permitted this loſs, to prevent any raſh young perſon from being dazzled by Robinſon's example, and traverſing the world, like him, in the hope of returning with a treaſure found by chance.

chance. As to Robinſon, the loſs gave him very little concern. Propoſing, as he did, to live, all the reſt of his days, as ſoberly and with the ſame perſeverance in labour, as he had whilſt upon his iſland, he found a lump of gold to be quite unneceſſary in the proſecution of ſuch a plan.

He now took the coach for his native city Exeter. He had already learned at Portſmouth that his mother was dead, that affectionate and tender mother, and he had bitterly lamented her loſs. Buried in melancholy on account of this event, he attended very little to the accidents of the road, and paſſed through the towns of Brent, Aſhburton, and Chudleigh, without taking the ſmalleſt notice of them. At length he ſtops in Exeter: his heart beating with joy, he ſprings out of the coach, and if it had not been for the numbers of people in the ſtreet, whoſe preſence ſomewhat abaſhed him, he would have fallen on his face to kiſs the ground of his native city.

Going into the inn at which the carriage ſtopped, he choſe to ſend to his father, in order

order to prepare him by degrees for the unexpected return of his ſon. The man who was charged with this meſſage had orders to tell the old gentleman, at firſt, that a perſon deſired to ſpeak with him, who brought him agreeable news from his ſon: he was, after ſome time, to add, that his ſon was coming to Exeter; and, laſtly, to declare that the bearer of theſe agreeable tidings was his ſon himſelf. Without this preparation, the good old man might have been ſeized with ſuch an exceſs of joy as would have coſt him his life.

After this precaution, Robinſon, who ſtill knew the ſtreets perfectly well, flies to his father's houſe. As ſoon as he arrived there, in a tranſport of inexpreſſible extacy he throws himſelf into his father's arms, who trembled all over. "Oh, my father!"—"My dear ſon!"—was all that they could ſay. Throbbing and ſpeechleſs, they remained ſome time locked in each other's arms; at length, a ſeaſonable flood of tears relieved both their breaſts, which were almoſt ſuffocated with joy.

Friday,

Friday, whom the multitude of different objects that he saw, filled with surprise, was staring about in silence. His eyes could never have enough. The first day he saw nothing, I may say: he was dazzled, confounded, and could fix on no object.

In the mean time, the noise of Robinson Crusoe's return and his surprising adventures was spread rapidly through the city of Exeter. He was the sole subject of conversation, and every body crouded to see him, every body desired to hear him relate his adventures himself. His father's house was for ever full of people, and Robinson was employed in relating his story from morning to evening; in the course of which he never forgot to address to the fathers and mothers who heard him the following exhortation. "If you love your children, I pray you, teach them, in their early years, to be godly, sober, and laborious:" and if there happened to be young persons present, he was careful to give them this wholesome advice, "My dear children, obey your parents and your teachers;

ers; learn diligently whatever you have a capacity to learn; fear God, and be careful —oh, be careful to avoid idleneſs! It is the mother of every vice."

Robinſon's father was by profeſſion a broker, and he wiſhed to ſee his ſon apply to his own buſineſs, in order to take it up after his death; but Robinſon, long accuſtomed to the pleaſure of manual labour, begged his permiſſion to learn the trade of a carpenter, and his father not oppoſing his inclination, he put himſelf, together with Friday, apprentice to that buſineſs, in which they made ſuch proficiency, that, before the end of the year, they could work with as much neatneſs and diſpatch as any of the trade in Exeter.

After ſome time, they opened the buſineſs in partnerſhip, and during their whole lives remained faithful friends and inſeparable companions. Induſtry and ſobriety were ſo much a ſecond nature to them, that they could not have paſſed even half a day in idleneſs or looſe living. In remembrance of their for-

mer ſolitary way of life, they pitched upon one day in the week to live in the ſame manner as they uſed in their iſland, as far as that could be done. Concord between themſelves, indulgence for the faults of others, beneficence towards thoſe whom they knew, and humanity to all men, were virtues ſo habitual to them, that they could not conceive how any one who neglected the practice of them could be happy. They were particularly diſtinguiſhed by a pure, ſincere, and active piety. Joy and love were ſeen to ſparkle in their eyes, whenever they pronounced the name of the Supreme Being; and they were in pain whenever they heard this ſacred name uttered in vain and from mere levity. Therefore, the bleſſing of Heaven viſibly crowned all their endeavours. Being always actively employed about ſomething uſeful, they reached a very advanced age in health and peace; and the remoteſt poſterity will reſpect the memory of two men, who, by their example, have ſhewn to the world in what manner we may beſt work out our temporal welfare in

this

this life, and our eternal happineſs in the next.

Here Mr. Billingſley was ſilent; the children continued ſtting ſome little time longer, in deep reflection, until this thought, *I will endeavour to do the ſame*, which reſulted as a moral from what they had heard, took root in the breaſt of each, and acquired the force of an immoveable reſolution.

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